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『ストロベリーシェイクSweet』第1巻応募者全員サービス小冊子

NOT FOR SALE

ストロベリーシェイクSweet

1.5

SHIZURU HAYASHIYA

林家志弦

SHIZURU HAYASHIYA

Strawberry Shake Sweet 1.5

Photoshopped.
It's a "spot the mistakes" game, Ryouko!
Hmm, I wonder how many there are ?
Every-thing after your birth was a mistake.
When did you make that picture?

***Strawberry Shake Sweet 1.5*, a companion booklet to *Strawberry Shake Sweet* volume 1 that was given to everyone who applied for one**
Hayashiya Shizuru

※This is a work of fiction. Any resemblance to actual persons, groups, or events is strictly coincidental
※Underage drinking is prohibited by law
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Printed in Japan

not the faintest hint of sexual activity passed between them.
While Ran was staying over at Julia's because of all the fuss over the stalker,
Or did it?
WHAAAT? YOU KNOW I'M UNDER-AGE, RIGHT?
JULIA-CHAN, WANT TO HAVE A DRINK WITH US?
OH!
GOOD WORK TODAY!
We got a ton of beer
AND ANYWAY, DRINKING ISN'T GOOD FOR YOU.
The truth is, there was one such sweet mistake one night.
PLEASE INVITE ME ALONG AFTER I TURN 20, THOUGH!
STRAWBERRY SHAKE Sweet
Liquor and Tears and Women and Women and Women and Women and Women and Women

Heh!
I SHOULD'VE HIT UPON THIS METHOD SOONER.
Heh heh.
Booze !!!
glurgle
A magical liquid that will open my heart and rid me of my virtuous restraint!
Let's turn back the clock a bit
and jump right to the night in question

HUH...?!
LIQUOR,
..DID YOU SAY?
THIS IS MY FIRST TIME DRINKING WINE.
It's a little scary...
OOOOH
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT I'M A MINOR TOO.
Mmmm
..UM, I'M STILL A MINOR..
AND THIS IS WINE, NOT HARD LIQUOR! IT'S JUST LIKE JUICE!!
Maybe I shouldn't...
My manager told me,
"You're incompetent — the more you like someone, the farther out of reach they are for you..."
IT'S FINE, IT'S FINE! THIS IS NOTHING
HERE, CHEEEERS!
cli—nk
..OH, REALLY?
Well, then...
completely wrong

I'M JUST DRINKING TO SOOTHE MY NERVES.
I'M NOT TRYING TO GET HER DRUNK, THOUGH.
?
I HAVEN'T TOUCHED SO MUCH AS A HAIR ON HER HEAD YET!
Grab!
Hence the alcohol !!!
And as a matter of fact, she was right !!
I want to let things happen naturally
Oh, it's good!
I don't want to get Ranran drunk and take advantage of her,
That's right—
...IS JULI-SAN DRUNK ALREADY ...?
Then I won't be incompetent anymore !!!
Heha
I'll use my drunken enthusiasm to jump her. I just need some liquid courage!
Heheha
the epitome of incompetence.
heha.

Na
←Laughing in her head
Just you watch, Saekiiiii !!!
ha ha ha ha
The crucial moment will be when the wine's starting to go to our heads— when we're both tipsy.

*note. Around 1.8 liters.

WHY'D YOU COME ALL THE WAY OVER HERE WITH A ONE-SHO* BOTTLE?!
IF YOU WANT TO DRINK, CAN'T YOU JUST GO TO A PUB OR A BAR OR SOMETHING?
Aomi
slam!
YOU'RE BEING COLD AGAIN.
Taste for the Ladies

FIND SOMEONE ELSE TO DRINK IT WITH! GEEZ!
It's lonely
I GOT MY HANDS ON SOME GOOD SAKE— OF COURSE I WANT SOMEONE TO SHARE IT WITH!
being in your late twenties

JUST SPEND SOME TIME WITH ME TODAY.
IT'S THE LEAST YOU CAN DO WHEN AN OLD FRIEND HAS A BIRTHDAY, HM?
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT... SORRY, KAORU. IT COMPLETELY SLIPPED MY MIND.
OH.....
DON'T MENTION IT.
IT DOESN'T BOTHER ME—I'M AN ADULT, AFTER ALL.
I JUST WANT TO CAP OFF THE DAY WITH SOME DRINKING.
And I can't let her drink
BESIDES, HARUNA-CHAN WENT ALL-OUT FOR IT.
Hm?
WHAT DID YOU MAKE HARUNA-CHAN "GO ALL-OUT" AT?
BY THE WAY,
.....
.....
IN THAT CASE...
WELL
OH.
Thanks
Happy birthday cheers

YOUR BIRTHDAY'S JUST A BIG SMUTFEST!
Like I'd want to!
BOTH OF OUR BODIES ARE COVERED IN MARKS NOW.
wanna see?
YOU'RE SO CRASS, RYOUKO
THERE'S ONLY ONE THING I'D ASK HER TO DO ON MY BIRTHDAY!
OHHH
I SEE, I SEE.
REJOICE, RYOUKO.
BUT I WANT TO FINISH SATING MY HUNGER WITH YOU.
I STOPPED MYSELF AT 70 PERCENT*,
WE HAVEN'T CROSSED THE BIG LINE SHE'S A MINOR.
OH, GEEZ. YOU'RE READING TOO MUCH INTO IT!
AND JUST WHERE DID YOU DRAW THAT LINE?! YOU'VE ALREADY COVERED EACH OTHER'S BODIES IN MARKS
DON'T TREAT ME LIKE YOUR FREAKIN' DES-SEEEEEERT!!!
ACK! WAIT NOT THE BOTTLE. DON'T WASTE I-..
GRA-AAH!
ko cra sh
ZLAY in that moment
A comrade's aura has just disappeared.
She died, huh?
*note: There's a Japanese theory that for optimal health one should only eat 70 percent of one's capacity

Cutting back to the Tachibana residence.
...
SIIIGH
tnk
2nd glass
RAN-RAN'S...
smile
glance
...NOT AFFECTED AT ALL...
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, I DON'T HAVE A VERY HIGH TOLERANCE FOR IT...
gotta be careful
...IT'S... REALLY GOING TO MY HEAD, I THINK...
THE POSSIBILITY THAT SHE MIGHT BE ABLE TO HOLD HER LIQUOR.
I DIDN'T TAKE INTO ACCOUNT
THIS PLAN MIGHT BE A FLOP...
SO, YOU'RE ONE OF THOSE PEOPLE
WHOSE FACE GETS FLUSHED WHEN THEY DRINK,
JULIA.

.....
.....
HM?
RAN-CHAN, WHAT DID YOU JUST ...?
AHA HA.
YOU'RE BRIGHT RED.
IT'S CUTE HOW YOU'RE GIRLY LIKE THAT,
stroke
JULIA.
Wh-
sparkle
Who's this
sparkle
stud-muffin
?!!!
sparkle
R...
Ra-ra-ran-chan chan.....?

Eeeek !!!!
y a n k
FORGET ABOUT THAT. COME OVER HERE AND START DRINKING FOR REAL!!
GEEEZ!
Oh!
She's drunk.
It's hard to tell just from looking at her, but she's totally smashed.
RAN-CHAN! HOW ABOUT WE HAVE A GLASS OF COLD WATER?!
HANG ON, I'LL GO GET SOME NOW!!
whoosh
HEY.. RAN-CHAN!
YOU SAID "EEEK!" HEHEHE. HOW CUUUTE!
NO - THIS ISN'T RIGHT!!
Wait!
Wait!
Not that I'm not happy, but this isn't how it's supposed to goooo!!!
Those were her memories of that sweet night
I'M NEVER DOING THAT AGAIN!
THANK GOODNESS SHE FELL ASLEEP PARTWAY THROUGH
but since things went the opposite of the way she wanted. Julia blocked them out.
When Ran woke up the next morning she'd already forgotten what happened
"Ranran should never be allowed to have alcohol ever
Good wooork!
END
ZLAY, in that moment
A yuri nova was just born, hm?
Oh
I sense a new comrade.
Oh, I like that phrase.

STRAWBERRY SHAKE Sweet

※The original illustration for the ZLAY poster that appeared in chapter 5

*note: In this case, a respectful address for a renowned artist

Special Project: AN ON-THE-SPOT INTERVIEW WITH HAYASHIYA SHIZURU-SENSEI!!

THE WHYS AND WHATS OF SSS

In *Comic Yuri Hime*, we asked for your questions about *Strawberry Shake Sweet*. The creator herself, Hayashiya Shizuru-sensei, has answered them!!

a manager. They've been known to threaten the lives of any deserters. Actually, to tell you the truth, Saeki started out as a talent, but when her career failed to take off, they made her a manager instead. That's show biz, as they say, and it seems that she wants to continue to work in the entertainment world.

Q: What da I need ta da ta see ane of ZLAY's secret gigs?

A: If you're a woman, you'll be able to catch the occasional show if you stalk them day and night. If you're a man, you'll be able to catch the occasional show if you get a sex-change.

Q: Which twa members of ZLAY ate Kaaru-san?

Hayashiya Shizuru-sensei is always swamped with wark, but we managed ta catch her and get same answers from her!

Q: Why does Saeki-san cantinue ta wark as a manager when she's been thraugh so many rough patches? Doesn't she get sick of her jab?

A: Saeki-san comes from a long, proud line of managers. She's known since birth that she would be expected to continue the tradition, and her education growing up reflected that. So she's never doubted her career as a manager, nor does it seem to be a burden for her. Her only burdens are the people she has to deal with.
Also, the Saeki family sees it as a betrayal when a member of their ranks quits being

I started drawing this story because I figured that I'd be able to draw a lot of cute girls .. but how did it end up like this? (There's an example of how not to answer a question — with another question!)

Please tell us more about yourself, Hayashiya-sensei!

...But we hardly know each other... I'm an old woman, you know that? You're sure you still want to know more? Actually, there's really nothing to tell .. I'm proud to say I have a spotless record! ♥

Hayashiya-sensei, thank you for taking time out of your busy schedule to answer our questions!

You can each come up with your own answer to that question. Perhaps it was *more* than two of them! Perhaps *she ate them* after she was eaten!

I want to know about Ran-chan's mysterious past!

It's not that big of a mystery — you'll find out all about it soon. If anything, her hair is the bigger mystery — where is it all sticking out from?

Is Julia attending school?

She's attending in secret. She gets good grades, believe it or not.

What's the origin of the title *Strawberry Shake Sweet*?

It comes from the title of a song on a CD I had lying around. I wanted something that sounded cute, so... It also ended up being the origin of the band name "ZLAY."

Why did you decide to make this manga about idols?

Strawberry Sweet Shake 1

Thank you for buying the book! If you're reading this, it means that I have passed beyond this existence... wait, that's not right! It means that you've purchased the first volume! Yahoo!! I have a lot of things I want to talk about, but to tell you the truth, this book isn't finished yet, and if I wait to talk about them until I've finished drawing it all, it might be cooler—like *Project X*. So I think I'd like to confine myself to a simple greeting for now. From the very beginning, my hope has been that my readers have smiles on their faces. That's how it is. I don't even care if it's my manga you're reading—just read with a smile! I'm going to continue to do my best, so please stay with me. One last note: I've never seen *Project X*.

Hayashiya Shizuru 2006

My usual helper: Makise Ren
Mercy buckets*1

*note: A lame joke on "merci beaucoup." The Japanese used here is "sankyuu beromaccho," a lame joke on "thank you very much."

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Strawberry Sweet
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ストロベリーシェイク Sweet 1

SHIZURU HAYASHIYA
林家志弦

yh COMICS
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1
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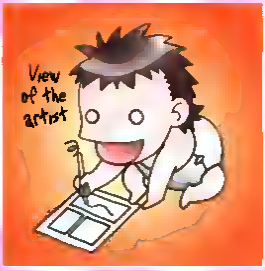
COMMENT



M家高弦

SHINSEN MAYAKEITA

Hello, and nice to meet you.

I never expected the one-shot I drew to end up being continued for this long.

When I initially came up with the idea of ZLAY, it was as a joke. I never imagined I'd actually draw them. The world is such an amazing place!

Thank you.

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ストロベリーシェイクSweet ――― ①
林家志弦

くちびる ためいき さくらいろ
森永みるく

A new song:

Booze and women and roses[1] and lilies[2]...
Oh, I don't want roses.
Just lilies.
Chicks are the best, chicks are the best!
I love chicks so muuuuuuuuch!

Lalala Ah——!
A fluttering rock staaar!
A chick-loving rock staaaar!

Isn't the beginning ripped off from another song?

Scrapped.

1: "HARA," A EUPHEMISM FOR GAY MEN AND A SUBGENRE OF BOYS' LOVE MANGA.
2: "YURI."

yh COMICS

ストロベリーソウル Sweet 1

林家志弦

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ストロベリーソウル Sweet 1

C'mon and come together!

B5判　定価880円（税込）
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林家志弦
SHIZURU HAYASHIYA

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1

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BLUEBERRY SHAKE Bitter

1

林家志弦

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Because I'm just that cool.

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ストロベリーシェイクSweet ——— ①
林家志弦
くちびる ためいき さくらいろ
森永みるく

コミック百合姫Vol.3特別付録

Strawberry Shake Sweet
That's what the title is now. Please continue to support it ~~~!
This is a rough sketch I did of the characters back before the manga began running. The characters have changed quite a bit since then... I hope you'll enjoy any future changes as well——.
Hayashiya Shizuru. 2005 Summer

Expose the hypocrisy of the Exposition of Global Harmony!!
A Cool Biz-related manga that does nothing of the sort.
STRAWBERRY SHAKE
EXTRA STRIP
Hayashiya Shizuru
I HATE SUM-MER
Why do we have to work outside on location on a day like this?
IT'S SOO-HOT!
OF COURSE I AM.
Hmmh?
YOU DON'T LOOK LIKE THE HEAT'S BOTH-ERING YOU, RAN-CHAN
AREN'T YOU HOT?
I'VE HEARD EXPOSING YOUR CHEST REALLY LOWERS YOUR BODY TEMPER-ATURE
BUT LOOK,
I'M WEARING A SHIRT TODAY THAT I CAN OPEN DOWN THE FRONT
SPLIT
SPLIT
sport
sport
T SUDDENLY GOT HOT ALL OF A SUDDEN

1 SEE HTTP://WWW.EXPO2005.COM

2 A DRESS CODE ADVOCATED BY THE JAPANESE MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT TO CUT DOWN ON AIR CONDITIONING.

STRAWBERRY
SHAKE
Sweet
1
SHIZUKU HAYASHIYA

STRAWBERRY SHAKE Sweet 1

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WELL WELL WELL
SO WITH THAT BEING SAID
ME??!!
TALENT PRODUCTION SHANHAI TALENT LIMITED
PRESIDENT: WATARIKAN SHANHAI
EHHH!?
SCOUTED TALENT OF SHANHAI PRODUCTION TACHIBANA JULIA (16)
NO WAY! I'M NOT GOING TO BABYSIT A NEWBIE
IT'S BECAUSE WE'RE SHORT ON PEOPLE SO PLEASE JULIA-CHAN
THIS GIRL HAS A LOT OF POTENTIAL AND WITH A LITTLE POLISHING, SHE'LL SHINE LIKE A STAR.
A GEM! A PRECIOUS DIAMOND!
WHICH IS ALSO WHY IT'LL BE A GOOD LEARNING EXPERIENCE FOR YOU.
YOU ARE ONE OF OUR BEST
AND I KNOW HOW BUSY YOU ALREADY ARE
YEA, THAT'S TRUE
ABSO-LUTELY NO!
AHH!!
JULIA-CHAN!

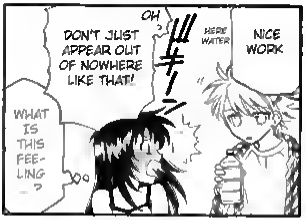
EDITED BY: TINY SNOWFAIRY
TRANSLATED BY: SERAVY
SCANNED BY: TINY SNOWFAIRY

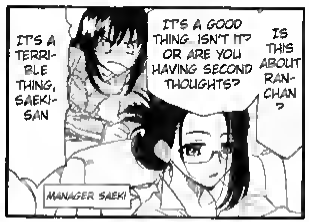
AH
OH, OH
THANK YOU
AH...
OH SHE'S HERE, SHE'S HERE!
THIS IS THE NEWBIE, ASAKAWA RAN, THAT I WAS TALKING ABOUT
HELLO, WATARI-KANI-SAN
WHAT DID YOU WANT TO TALK TO ME ABOUT?

TAKE THAT !!
IT SEEMS LIKE ---
YES
IT'S NOTHING --
BUT I WAS GOING TO PUT YOU UNDER JULIA-CHAN HERE UNTIL YOUR DEBUT, YOU KNOW, TO GIVE YOU A FEW POINTERS, BUT...
I'M ZA ONE DAT THE ENTERTAINMENT WORLD IS GOING TA BOW DOWN TO!
JULIA-CHAN
WHAT IS WITH THAT ATTITUDE
AND THAT WAS HOW THE TWO MET
HAA
PLEASED TO MEET YOU, TOO
JUST HAN' ON TIGHT, SISTAH !!!
ストロベリージェイク
STRAWBERRY SHAKE
Hayashiya Siduru 林家志弦

Is it wrong?
ダメですか

Rivals?
ライバルですか




IT'S A TERRIBLE THING, SAEKI-SAN
IT'S A GOOD THING, ISN'T IT? OR ARE YOU HAVING SECOND THOUGHTS?
IS THIS ABOUT RAN-CHAN ?
MANAGER SAEKI

THAT GIRL IS REALLY CUTE
ONCE SHE MAKES HER DEBUT WE'LL BE RIVALS RIGHT?
I FEEL BITTER BUT BOSS HAS MADE A GOOD CHOICE
AND ADORABLE

HOW CAN A TALL IDIOT LIKE THAT MANAGE TO LOOK SO CUTE?
IT'S SO WEIRD
THE NEXT DAY
AHH... YOU SCARED ME!
HOGA!
OH
I GOT HOME
IT'S TIME FOR A BREAK
AND HERE'S SOME FOOD
WHAT IS IT, NEWBIE!?
AND I REALLY WANT TO KNOW WHAT IT IS
AH I CAN FEEL SOMETHING IN THE PIT OF MY STOMACH
HOGA!
JULIA-CHAH
AND JULIA-CHAN
WHAT IS WITH THE -CHAN''
OH SINCE WE ARE ABOUT THE SAME AGE
THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH AGE!
THE FIRST ONE TO DEBUT IS THE SUPERIOR ONE!
HAA...

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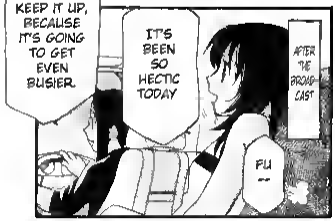
LILICIOUS - MAY IT'S FRAGRANCE ENCOMPASS YOU
LILICIOUSFC.MEOCX.COM

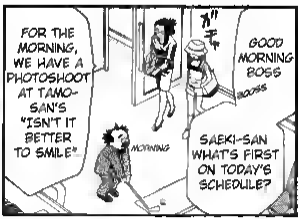
It's Dangerous

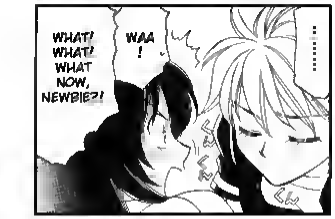
危険ですか

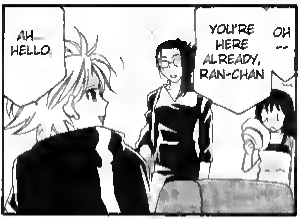
Is it here?

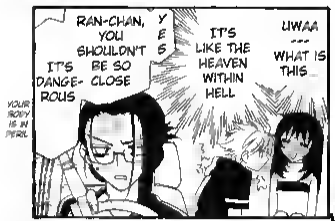
そっちですか




FOR THE MORNING, WE HAVE A PHOTOSHOOT AT TAMO-SAN'S "ISN'T IT BETTER TO SMILE"
MORNING
GOOD MORNING BOSS
SAEKI-SAN WHAT'S FIRST ON TODAY'S SCHEDULE?







AH ...
CAN'T EVEN FIND SOMEONE TO PASS THE TIME WITH
WHERE DID SHE WANDER OFF TO?
HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA WAITING FOR HER PART
AH
WHAT ARE THEY TALKING ABOUT OVER THERE!
AND THOSE GIRLS ARE THE MOST ANNOYING DUET FROM A RIVAL COMPANY.
OH, SO YOU WERE SCOUTED BY SHINHAI-SAN?
WHY IS THAT IDIOT TALKING TO THEM!
WOW, YOU'RE SO TALL WITH A VERY NICE STYLE
YOU'RE GONNA MAKE IT FOR SURE
I DON'T THINK SO. I'M STILL IN THE MIDDLE OF TRAINING WITH JULIA-SAN.
JULIA... AS IN TACHIBANA JULIA?
NO WAY NOTHING GOOD COMES OUT OF BEING WITH HER!?
GU ...
I HATE THAT GIRL!

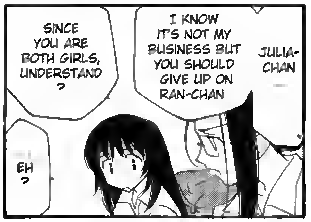
REALLY?
JULIA-SAN IS A LITTLE SCARY BUT I THINK SHE'S A NICE PERSON
I LIKE HER VERY MUCH.
THAT GIRL ALSO HAS A MAJOR ATTITUDE PROBLEM
I COULDN'T CARE LESS ABOUT HER
IT'S NO BIG DEAL
EH?
YOU HATE HER TOO, DON'T YOU, RAN-CHAN?
YEAH, SHE PUSHES EVERYONE AROUND ...
AND DURING WORK
HEY GIRLS
I'LL TREAT YOU ALL TO BBQ AT YUCHIMAEN'S
WHAT IS WITH THE SUDDEN LOVE AND THOUGHT-FULNESS!!!
THIS MUST BE REVENGE A NEWBIE'S REVENGE
THAT'S HOW I FEEL RIGHT NOW

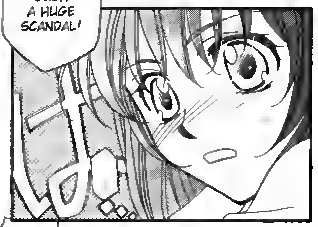
What is it?

何がですか

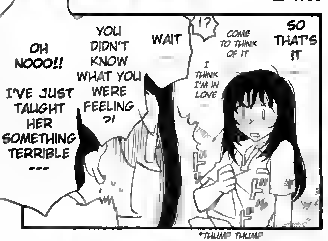
Waiting?

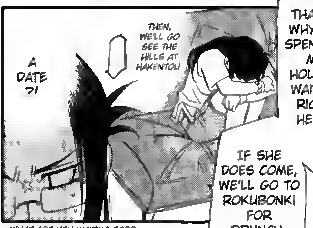
待ちですか





AS THAT GIRL'S SENIOR, I STILL HAVE A LOT OF THINGS THAT I NEED TO TEACH HER.
I DON'T KNOW WHEN ASAKAWA IS GOING TO SHOW UP AT THE OFFICE




A DATE ?!
THEN, WE'LL GO SEE THE HILLS AT HAKENTOU
THAT IS WHY I'M SPENDING MY HOLIDAY WAITING RIGHT HERE
IF SHE DOES COME, WE'LL GO TO ROKUBONKI FOR BRUNCH
WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? JUST GO AND SEDUCE HER!

EDITED BY: TINY SNOWFAIRY
TRANSLATED BY: SERAVY
SCANNED BY: TINY SNOWFAIRY

AND THEN
IT'S LIKE THE HAZE AROUND MY HEART HAS CLEARED
IT FEELS SO GOOD TO FINALLY KNOW WHAT IT WAS, I WAS FEELING
THANK YOU, SAEKI-SAN
AND NOW THAT I'VE DECIDED --- ATTACK !!!
RAAAAN-CHAAAN ---
オッハヨ～ッ
FU-E ?!
R-RAN-CHAN ?!
!!
WAAA
WAAA——!!!
ARE YOU ALRIGHT, JULIA-SAN?
I'M FINE, I'M FINE
OW OW OW
Oi~ TACHIBANA-SAN JUST FELL

IT'D BE BETTER IF YOU DON'T WALK ON IT
DIDN'T YOU JUST SPRAIN YOUR ANKLE?
JULIA -SAN ?
HE ?!
NOOO
WILL IT WORK OUT IF REALITY AND FANTASY SWITCHED PLACES
AH
THAT'S WRONG!! IF WE SWITCHED PLACES ...
IT'D BE SAD LIKE THIS !!!
HER ANKLE TOOK A WHOLE MONTH TO HEAL
ストロベリーシェイク●END
STRAWBERRY SHAKE -- END

After a radio recording
TACHIBANA JULIA, A 16 YEAR OLD GIRL,
AH!
IT'S LATE.
I WONDER IF SAEKI-SAN IS IN THE LOBBY?
IS A YOUNG TALENT* HOPING TO WORK FOR A LESSER OFFICE OF SHANGHAI ENTERTAINMENT.
SORRY TO MAKE YOU WAIT.
HUH? OH..
DESERTED
SHE'S NOT HERE..
HER JUNIOR (WHO HAS YET TO DEBUT), ASAKAWA RAN,
ALSO A GIRL.
AND
JULIA HAS SOMEHOW FALLEN IN LOVE WITH HER

*"TALENT" IN THIS CASE IS A SYNONYM FOR "IDOL," A POP CULTURE ICON, OFTEN ONE WHO WORKS IN MULTIPLE FIELDS SUCH AS MUSIC, TV, AND MODELING. MOST IDOLS HAVE SHORT-LIVED CAREERS.

IT'S ALL RIGHT FOR ME TO INTERPRET IT THAT WAY, RIGHT GOD!!!?
THAT'S IT!!
THIS IS AN OFFERING FOR ME!!
THUD
YET AGAIN, SHE'S SLEEPING IN A PLACE LIKE THIS, LOOKING DEFENSE-LESS..
RAN-RAN..
her secret nickname for her
Zzzzz
I SHALL CHASTELY ACCEPT IT!
WELL THEN ..
Hey
HERE, RAN-CHAN, CO-...
GEEZ. THE VENDING MACHINES HERE ARE TERRIBLE.
ARRRGH!!!
IT'S HARD IN THIS POSITION
SPLASH

SCANDAL! SCANDAAAL!!
NO! STOP!!
STOP, JULIA-CHAN!
Scandal... Industry Jargon
LIGHT!
I HAVE TO DO IT WITHOUT SPILLING THE COFFEE! WITHOUT SPILLING IT---!!!
AH!!!
BUT BOTH MY HANDS ARE FULL!
.....
.....
.....
!!
MM?
MATRIX
WHOLE PICTURE

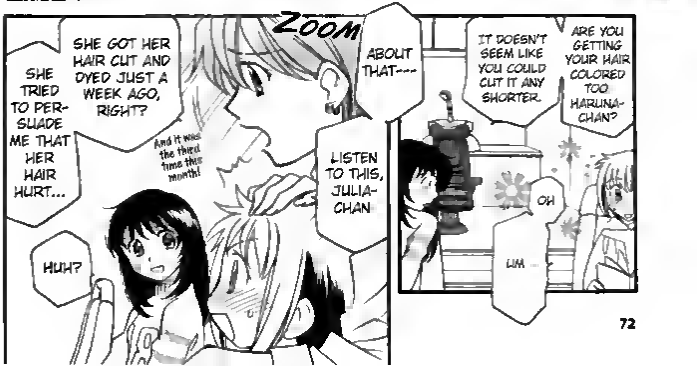
ストロベリーシェイク
STRAWBERRY SHAKE
CHAPTER 2
林家志弦
Hayashiya Shiduru
AIMING TO BE A HOME-GROWN YURI POP DUO!? EXPLOSIVE LOVE COMEDY

...RIGHT BACK AT YOU, YOU LITTLE BRAT...
I'm not even a dozen years older than you!
HOW SADDENING! HAD TO KISS A WOMAN A DOZEN YEARS OLDER THAN ME...
DISGUST!
GEEEEEZ! DON'T PLAY AROUND LIKE THAT, SAEKI-SAN...
UGH..
?
Geez...
CHEER UP, CHEER UP!
LET'S GO DO KARAOKE, SAEKI-SAN! KARAOKE!
Wah..
WHAT!?
DO YOU EVEN KNOW WHAT TIME IT IS RIGHT NOW?
SO WE'LL JUST DO A LITTLE! JUST TWO HOURS!
INSTEAD OF VOCAL TRAINING.
I GUESS I DON'T HAVE A CHOICE...
SAY, RAN-CHAN, YOU COMING TOO?
Let's do a duet!
OH...
..
.. ALL RIGHT, BUT...
WON'T YOUR PARENTS OR SOMEONE BE WORRIED THAT YOU'RE OUT SO LATE?
?
OH----..
TEE HEE
NO,
IT'S FINE. MY PARENTS PASSED AWAY WHEN I WAS REALLY YOUNG.
I'M LIVING ALONE RIGHT NOW...

.....!
...
HM?
WHAT'S WRONG, RAN-CHAN?
I BET MY GRAND-FATHER WILL BE MAD THAT I'M GOING OUT AT NIGHT.
EHEHE
BUT I HAVE GRAND-PARENTS
OH,
.....!
...
2 SECONDS LATER
RUNNING
YES?
WHERE ARE YOU GOING, RAN-CHAN?
IT'S A COMMON OCCURRENCE AN AWKWARD ATMOSPHERE WHEN ONE DOESN'T KNOW WHETHER OR NOT TO APOLOGIZE.
BUT HURRY UP AND GET IN THE CAR!
clink
clink
THAT'S RIGHT
OH
THANKS.. IT'S NICE AND WARM
NOD NOD
WHAT?
COCOA? FOR ME?

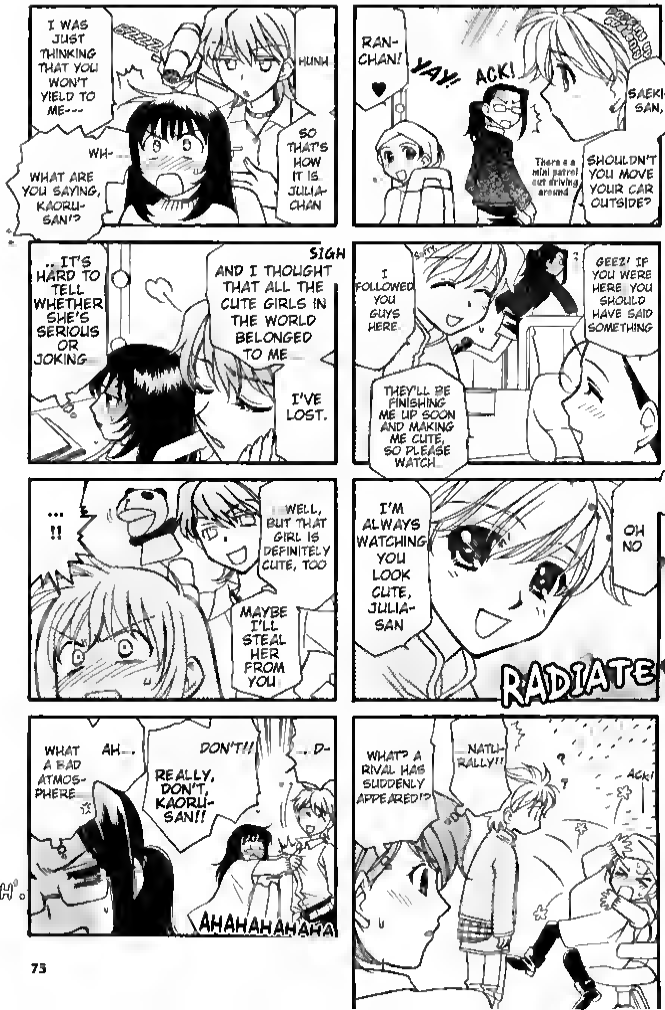
SOARING
DEPRESSED
...SO
...THAT'S HOW IT IS?
..YES
OUTSIDE LOCATION
NO!
IT'S MY FAULT FOR SAYING SOMETHING I SHOULDN'T HAVE...
I'M SORRY FOR SAYING THINGS THAT MADE YOU FEEL LIKE YOU SHOULD PITY ME...
PRETTY MUCH...
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT!
Exactly what he means
HUH?
YOU MEAN WHAT SHE SAID ABOUT MY PARENTS?
Oh, dear
SHE'S VERY QUIET AGAIN TODAY...
I WONDER IF SHE'S STILL WORRIED ABOUT LAST NIGHT?
BUT WHEN I THINK OF HOW YOU MUST HAVE BEEN LONELY AS A CHILD
IT MAKES ME SAD, TOO, SOMEHOW
Sorry!
YOU'RE A LEVEL-HEADED PERSON JULIA
MY GRAND-PARENTS WERE LIKE PARENTS TO ME, SO FRANKLY, IT DOESN'T REALLY BOTHER ME...
I WONDER IF I SAID IT BADLY
MY PARENTS ARE GONE, BUT IT'S BEEN THAT WAY FOR AS LONG AS I CAN REMEMBER
WAAAH WAAAAH WAH
UWAAAAH!!!
DON'T SAY THAT! STOP! I CAN'T HEAR YOU, I CAN'T HEAR YOU!
I REALLY LOVE THAT ASPECT OF HER PERSONALITY, SAEKI-SAN---!!!
A LITTLE RELIEVED
I LOVE THAT...
BUT
I CAN'T SAY IT I CAN'T SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT!
CLAAK
GO AHEAD AND SAY IT, SINCE YOU'RE SO PATHETIC!
WHEN I THINK THAT RAN-CHAN'S HEART IS FILLED WITH THOUGHTS OF ME BECAUSE OF THAT...
EMPTY

OKAY---
HUH?
HEY!
IT'S YOU, JULIA-CHAN! C'MON IN!
A DIFFERENT STORY, FOR A BIT
HARUNA-CHAN.
YOU'RE HERE ..
Didn't expect to run into you here.
OH! JULIA-CHAN,
GOOD AFTER-NOON
WORKS FOR SHANGHAI ENTERTAINMENT TALENT, SAME YEAR AS JULIA ENOMOTO HARUNA (15)
"PICARESQUE" BEAUTY PARLOR STORE HEAD SHINJOU KAORU
OKAY. HOLD ON A MINUTE, I'LL BE WITH YOU SOON
A TRIM AND A COLORING, I GUESS
Well,
WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TODAY?


ZOOM
SHE GOT HER HAIR CUT AND DYED JUST A WEEK AGO, RIGHT?
SHE TRIED TO PER-SUADE ME THAT HER HAIR HURT...
And it was the third time this month!
HUH?
ABOUT THAT----
LISTEN TO THIS, JULIA-CHAN
IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE YOU COULD CUT IT ANY SHORTER.
ARE YOU GETTING YOUR HAIR COLORED TOO HARUNA-CHAN?
OH
UM

SO...
WHY WOULD SHE...
HER HAIR IS PRETTY, SHE DOESN'T HAVE TO BE SO DILIGENT ABOUT IT...
RIGHT?
I THINK SO TOO
SEE, HARUNA-CHAN?
JULIA-CHAN THINKS THAT TOO. SO FOR NOW, HOW ABOUT WE STICK TO HAIRCARE TODAY?
Packs and stuff
N-
NO!
NO! BECAUSE THEN I WOULDN'T GET TO HAVE YOU TOUCH ME, KAORU-SAN...
UM-UM-
IN SHORT,
I WOULDN'T MIND HAVING MY HAIR CUT FIVE TIMES, IF KAORU-SAN DID IT!!!
BA
MM
GEEEEZ...
YOU'RE SUCH A SILLY GIRL♥
IT WOULD BE BAD IF AN IDOL HAD HER HAIR CUT FIVE TIMES, WOULDN'T IT?
...I SEE
I GET IT.
I DON'T REALLY UNDERSTAND, BUT I GET IT. HARUNA-CHAN...
KAORU-SAN KNOWS AND SO SHE TEASES HER.
They're the same kind

INCREDIBLY JEALOUS SECRET DISCUSSION


BEING MEAN
NATURAL, FULL-FORCE
I WAS JUST THINKING THAT YOU WON'T YIELD TO ME---
HUNH
WH-
SO THAT'S HOW IT IS, JULIA-CHAN
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, KAORU-SAN!?
RAN-CHAN!
YAY!
ACK!
There's a mini patrol out driving around
Umm
SAEKI-SAN,
SHOULDN'T YOU MOVE YOUR CAR OUTSIDE?
.. IT'S HARD TO TELL WHETHER SHE'S SERIOUS OR JOKING
SIGH
AND I THOUGHT THAT ALL THE CUTE GIRLS IN THE WORLD BELONGED TO ME
I'VE LOST.
I FOLLOWED YOU GUYS HERE.
GEEZ! IF YOU WERE HERE, YOU SHOULD HAVE SAID SOMETHING
THEY'LL BE FINISHING ME UP SOON AND MAKING ME CUTE, SO PLEASE WATCH.
... !!
WELL, BUT THAT GIRL IS DEFINITELY CUTE, TOO
MAYBE I'LL STEAL HER FROM YOU
I'M ALWAYS WATCHING YOU LOOK CUTE, JULIA-SAN
?
OH NO
RADIATE
WHAT A BAD ATMOS-PHERE...
AH...
DON'T!!
..D-
REALLY, DON'T, KAORU-SAN!!
AHAHAHAHAHA
GH'
WHAT? A RIVAL HAS SUDDENLY APPEARED!?
NATU-RALLY!!
Ack!

Y-...
YES? ME?
ALL RIGHT! PLEASE COME THIS WAY, RAN-CHAN.
HEY...!
GRAB
I'M INTE-RESTED IN YOU NOW

WELL...
SHE MIGHT REALLY BE GOOD RAW MATERIAL...
BUT...
SHANGHAI-SAN CAN REALLY SPOT THEM
HUNH
HUNH
It's only natural.

I'M JUST GOING TO TOUCH HER A BIT ♥
I'M NOT GOING TO DO ANYTHING
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO DO, KAORU-SAN!?

...
...
SHOULDN'T YOU GO KEEP AN EYE ON THEM, TO SEE WHERE KAORU-SAN IS GOING TO TOUCH HER!?
SAEKI-SAN!!

.HEY, KAORU!?
THAT'S A PROBLEM RAN-CHAN ISN'T...
Well well well
IT'S JUST A LITTLE BIT...
TALK WITH JULIA-CHAN AND HARUNA-CHAN OR SOMETHING
Secret Room
HUNH?

WHAT ARE YOU AND KAORU-SAN TO EACH OTHER!?
MORE IMPORTANTLY, SAEKI-SAN!!
MAYBE I SHOULD QUIT...

AND THEN
CLICK
TA-DA!
THE BIG PRESENTATION YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR!
NOW THEN, RAN-CHAN.
COME SHOW EVERYONE ♥
...
...AH...
GEEZ
YOU DON'T LISTEN, DO YOU?
YOU TOOK TOO LONG!
DON'T BE TOO SURPRISED WHEN YOU SEE THIS...?
RAN-CHAN IS ALL RIGHT, ISN'T SHE!?
ER.
UM,
...H-HOW DO YOU LIKE IT...?
This sort of look.

SHRIEK!
...AHHHH---!
WHAT IS IT? WHAT'S WRONG?
wh-
SURPRISE
RIGID
R-REALLY?
I'm so embarrassed
IT... IT'S NICE...!
I WAS SO SURPRISED I DIDN'T EVEN RECOGNIZE YOU---!
I'M GOING TO KILL YOU, RYOUKO
HA HA HA HA
Wa!!
WHEN YOU LOOK GOOD TO BEGIN WITH, YOU'RE PRETTY ENOUGH EVEN WITH A BAD MAKEUP JOB
...!
ACK!
WHY... DON'T YOU LIKE RAN-CHAN LIKE THIS?
NOOOO!!
THIS IS NO GOOD AT ALL, KAORU-SAN!!!
NOOOO!
I GUESS IT REALLY DOESN'T SUIT ME I'LL CHANGE BACK
OH..
MUSS
It's a misunderstanding...
At least let me take a picture
WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO?
..OH... SO THAT'S IT...
YOU SAW HER HALF-NAKED!!!
..YOU SAW HER, DIDN'T YOU?
YOU MADE HER CHANGE HER CLOTHES!

...I'LL NEVER FORGIVE YOU!
---ALL RIGHT, OKAY!
SIGH
GOOD WORK. BREAK TIME!
SLAAA
AND THEN, THE DAY OF THE DRAMA FILMING
...
...
STEALTHILY
I GOT TO HIT HER THREE TIMES TODAY MUST BE MY LUCKY DAY!
AND BECAUSE SHE KEPT MESSING UP,
OF COURSE!
HE HE..
YOU'RE AWFUL! YOU SLAPPED HER AS HARD AS YOU COULD ON PURPOSE, DIDN'T YOU?
I CAN'T CONCENTRATE BECAUSE OF YESTERDAY
GEEZ.
AH... THAT HURTS.
NOT TOO WORRIED ABOUT IT.

JULIA-SAN.
ACK!
I'M SORRY.
...
Um...
IS YOUR CHEEK ALL RIGHT?
HUH...
OH
IT'S FINE, THIS IS NOTHING
...
THAT GIRL SLAPPED YOU HARD ON PURPOSE
SHE'S TERRIBLE
...
HUH?
WHY?
IT WAS HER JOB, IT'S ONLY NATURAL THAT SHE HIT ME SERIOUSLY
AND SHE HAD TO HIT ME THREE TIMES BECAUSE I MESSED UP.
...

SAEKI-SAN SAID SHE'S GOING TO BRING A COLD TOWEL.
WHAT? WHAT!?
..WH-
WH-WH-WH-WH-
YES
TOUCH
MY HAND IS PRETTY COLD, ISN'T IT?
PLEASE MANAGE WITH JUST MY HAND FOR A LITTLE WHILE.
DON
DON
DON
*NOTE. THE NAME OF HEIDI'S GRANDFATHER IN THE ANIME "HEIDI GIRL OF THE ALPS"
ON!!!!!*
MAA
MAA
FILMING HAS RESUMED
WE'RE DONE WITH THAT SCENE. IT'S OVER!!
What's wrong with you? Always acting like that!
Y-YOU'RE SCARY!
YOU MIGHT AS WELL COME AND DO IT!!
COME ON AND SLAP ME.
COME ON
AACK
WAY

SINGING
CONFRONTATION
HUH?
WELL THEN
I'LL SING THIS ONE
KARAOKE ROOM
SO, RAN-CHAN, WHAT WILL YOU SING?
YOU CAN GO FIRST
TH-THAT'S TRUE...
I HAVEN'T BEEN GOING LATELY...
SAY, WORK FINISHED EARLY,
SO LET'S GO DO KARAOKE TODAY, KARAOKE!
SINGING STARTS!
...
NO.
I'LL GO
YOU DON'T HAVE TO COME, DO YOU, SAEKI-SAN?
YOU STILL HAVE WORK TO DO, DON'T YOU?
AMAZING!
This is...
AMA-
I'M NOT FORCING MYSELF. I'M GOING.
NO, YOU REALLY DON'T HAVE TO FORCE YOURSELF TO COME
GR
RR
WITH THE SINGING POWER OF CELINE DION!!
SHE'S SINGING THE HAKUSHON DAIMAOU THEME
I'M DEFI-NITELY GOING!
I CAN'T LEAVE YOU TWO ALONE BEHIND CLOSED DOORS!
MMM?
DO I HAVE TO SPELL IT OUT FOR YOU?
Oh?
PLEASE DON'T COME!
THEY ALWAYS GET ALONG SO WELL...

BUT IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I DID KARAOKE WITH SOMEONE ELSE. I HAD FUN, JULIA-SAN.
JULIA-SAN?
...BUT ANYWAY, I WAS SURPRISED BY YOUR SINGING, RAN-CHAN
T-... THAT'S NOT TRUE...
IT'S QUITE GOOD.
I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO YOUR DEBUT NOW.
OH, NO!
I STILL HAVE TO TRAIN A LOT MORE...
YOU'RE... A REALLY GOOD SINGER, RAN-CHAN
YOUR STYLE IS GOOD, AND YOU'RE CUTE
AND YOU HAVE THAT SPECIAL SOMETHING THAT DRAWS PEOPLE'S EYES.
WHAT?
SORRY, I'M GOING HOME AHEAD OF YOU.
JULIA-CHAN?
Hey
...WAIT! WHAT ARE YOU DOING ALL OF A SUDDEN?
WHEN YOU DEBUT,
I'M SURE YOU'LL BE AN INCREDIBLY FORMIDABLE RIVAL

JULIA-CHAN!
GEEZ
WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU? YOU'RE MAKING RAN-CHAN FEEL BAD NOW.
SAEKI-SAN..
I WAS NAIVE.
IT WASN'T GOOD FOR ME TO GET ALONG WITH HER AND HAVE FUN WITH HER JUST BECAUSE I LIKED HER.
I'M GOING TO PUT SOME DISTANCE BETWEEN US.
THERE'S NO SENSE IN BEING BEATEN BY MY JUNIOR.
JULIA..

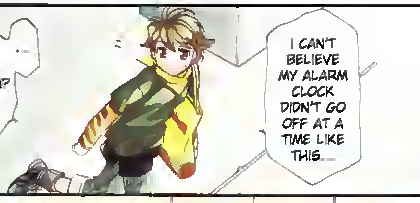
WHERE'S THE PUNCH-LINE?
THERE IS ONE, ISN'T THERE? TELL ME!
HEY!
THERE ISN'T ONE!!
AFTER MAKING THAT BIG DECISION THAT DAY.
JULIA SPENT THE NIGHT IN TEARS.
WAAAAH!
IT'S SO
HAAARD!
Thus...
STRAWBERRY SHAKE
END

—...
...OH
AH-...
...HUH?

THEY'RE GONNA LEAVE ME BEHIND!
CR-
CRAP CRAP!
SO PLEASE BE SURE TO BE ON TIME, ☆
WE'RE STARTING EARLY TOMORROW.

WHOLE-HEARTED FIRST TITLE, WITH COLOR 24P!!

林家志弦
SHIZURU HAYASHIYA



VERY HOT AND NONSTOP LOVE COMEDY

ストロベリーシェイク
STRAWBERRY SHAKE

CHAPTER 3

WOW...
...JULIA-SAN SURE IS COOL...
SMILE
BIG
SMILE

I'M SORRY I DID IT WITHOUT THINKING...
It is early in the morning.
There was nobody around.
...SO?
YOU TOOK IT?
IT'S SURPRISING HOW DARING YOU ARE, RAN-CHAN

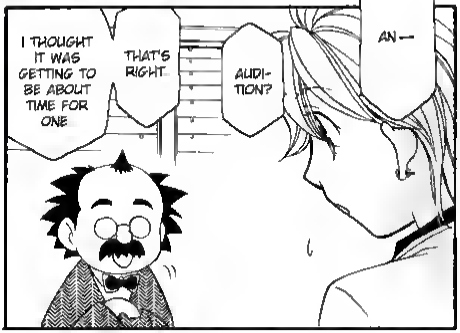
OH——!!!
TEAR
RIP
RIP
SHOCK
OH…
WH-…
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, JULIA?!!
NO MATTER HOW UPSET YOU ARE ABOUT IT, THAT'S…
SAEKI-SAN!!!
GIVE HER A NEW POSTER!!!
A BRAND NEW ONE WITHOUT ANY CREASES OR PIN MARKS!!
GEEZ, IT'S TERRIBLE THAT YOU HAD ONE THAT WAS POSTED AT THE STATION.
OH… IS THAT IT…?
…
She seems pretty happy about it

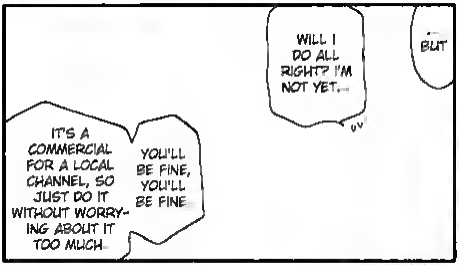
SAEKI-SAN...
AM I A NUISANCE?
OUT OF IT!
HM?
JULIA-SAN'S BEEN COLD TO ME LATELY.
EVEN THOUGH I THOUGHT WE'D FINALLY STARTED GETTING ALONG...
I'VE KIND OF LOST CONFIDENCE IN MYSELF.
I WONDER IF SHE DISLIKES ME NOW...
NO!
NO, NO. THERE'S NO WAY THAT'S TRUE.
SHE HAS A LOT OF THINGS GOING ON
YEAH,
R-REALLY...?
HUH?
BUT YOU'RE NOT DOING ANYTHING WRONG, RAN-CHAN, SO YOU HAVE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.
Even though I don't want to say that!

BUT THE TRUTH IS,
I KIND OF LIKE WATCHING JULIA-SAN GIVE HER WORK HER ALL.
SHE'S NEVER BEEN THE SORT OF GIRL WHO WOULD DISLIKE SOMEONE WITHOUT A REASON.
YOU KNOW?
SO AS LONG AS I'M ALLOWED TO WATCH HER WHILE SHE'S DOING THAT,
I'D BE ABLE TO STAND BEING HATED BY HER.
KIND OF THINK THAT...
...
YOU'RE RIGHT.
I THINK SO, TOO.
HUH?
IT'S JUST YOUR IMAGINATION!!
?
IT'S AN ILLUSION!
GRR..
YOU WITCH, SAEKI, YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE REALLY ENJOYING YOURSELF...
What are they talking about?
SHE'S NOT THE PERSON YOU THINK SHE IS. DON'T BE DECEIVED!!
HUH?
YOU'RE IMAGINING THINGS, RAN-CHAN!

TRIED SPEAKING FRANKLY
TRIED WORRYING ABOUT IT
BUT YOU'RE OVER-THINKING THINGS, JULIA-CHAN.
WELL, I GUESS ANY-THING IS FINE.
URGH —
BEING RIVALS DOESN'T MEAN YOU TWO CAN'T GET ALONG.
THAT'S RIGHT.
HUH... REALLY ...?!
VOOO
HUH —?
DID SOME-THING HAPPEN WITH RAN-CHAN?
KIND OF SIMMERING TODAY, JULIA-CHAN.
YOU'RE
YEAH.. YOU'RE RIGHT
I FEEL SORRY FOR RAN-CHAN, BEING YANKED AROUND LIKE THAT.
YOU HAVE TO SEPA-RATE YOUR WORK AND YOUR PRIVATE LIFE IN YOUR MIND.
SO? HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN SINCE YOU'VE TALKED TO HER?
WHY ARE YOU DOING THAT AGAIN..?
IT'S REALLY AFFECTING MY SPIRITS.
I'VE BARELY TALKED TO HER IN FOR-E— VER...
I MIGHT DIE
WHEN WE WERE AWAY FROM WORK, EVERYONE WAS A LITTLE TOO FRIENDLY TO ME, YOU KNOW?
Rivals really get you fired up.
I HAD A LOT OF RIVALS BACK WHEN I WAS A NEWBIE, TOO.
I'M SCARED, KAORU-SAN. YOU'RE SCARING ME.
FOR NOW PROBLEM SOLVED
IS THIS REALLY ENOUGH TO AFFECT YOUR SPIRITS?!
THAT'S SO SHORT!
THIS IS THE SECOND DAY.
It's so demanding—

TRIED PUTTING IT INTO PRACTICE
TRIED PLAYING WITH HER
Whoa!
AS LONG AS WE'RE NOT AT WORK, IT'S FINE FOR ME TO FLIRT WITH HER!
THAT'S RIGHT!
WORK IS WORK, AND MY PRIVATE LIFE IS MY PRIVATE LIFE!
You shouldn't have interfered
WHAAT, HM? HARUNA-CHAN, WERE YOU LISTENING TO OUR CONVERSATION JUST NOW?
ARE YOU ONLY NICE TO ME BECAUSE IT'S YOUR JOB TO BE ..?
KAORU-SAN
But why would you think that?
JULIA-SAN, HERE'S A DRINK..
UM.
UM..
DURING WORK
HORRIBLE REVELATION
THAT'S RIGHT —
I GUESS IN YOUR CASE IT'S BECAUSE OF MY JOB.
OR TO A MOVIE —?!
LET'S GO DO KARA-OKE!
LET'S PLAY!
AFTER WORK
HUH?
RAN-CHAN, RAN-CHAN!
UM-
YES
...IS THAT SO.
Come to think of it...
OH
AFTER ALL, I ONLY EVER SEE YOU HERE, WHEN I'M AT WORK, HARUNA-CHAN
sigh
OH, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. SHE'S JUST AN IDIOT
JULIA-SAN...
I UNDER-STAND HER EVEN LESS THAN BEFORE.
A WOMAN WHO DOESN'T UNDERSTAND THE MEANING OF THE WORD "MODERATION." TACHIBANA JULIA, 16 YEARS OLD
Disheartened
HUH ...?
ON
HUH ?
SO SHALL WE GO AHEAD AND START SEEING EACH OTHER PRIVATELY ?
FAIL
HUUH ?!
OH DEAR, THIS GIRL IS REALLY TOO FUNNY.


I THOUGHT IT WAS GETTING TO BE ABOUT TIME FOR ONE
THAT'S RIGHT
AUDI-TION?
AN—
HUH?

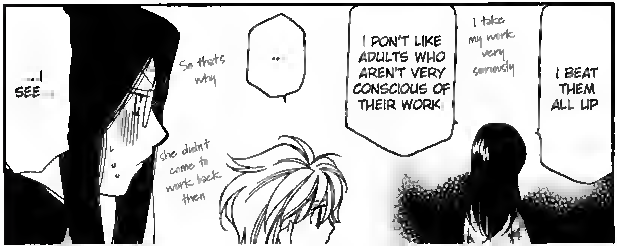

IT'S A COMMERCIAL FOR A LOCAL CHANNEL, SO JUST DO IT WITHOUT WORRY-ING ABOUT IT TOO MUCH
YOU'LL BE FINE, YOU'LL BE FINE
WILL I DO ALL RIGHT? I'M NOT YET...
BUT...

THAT DOESN'T MATTER A——T ALL
JULIA-CHAN!
ACK!
DIDN'T YOU HAVE TODAY OFF?

*COMPANY HEAD
WILL SHE REA——LLY BE ALL RIGHT, I WONDER?
SHA-CHOU.

I'M ASKING YOU
IF THE SPONSORS ARE PEOPLE OF CHARACTER THAT YOU CAN TRUST!
HUH?
THEY'RE PRESENTING RAN-CHAN, AREN'T THEY?!!
SO WE HAVE TO MAKE SURE THAT THEY HAVE THE DIGNITY NEEDED FOR THAT!!
BAM
YES
. YOU'RE IN HERE ON YOUR DAY OFF, AND YOU'RE SAYING WHAT ——?!!

WHEN I DEBUTED, THE PRODUCER AND THE SPONSORS TOUCHED MY BUTT AND STUFF
WHAT ?!
Hey
SOMETHING LIKE THAT HAPPENED? YOU SHOULD HAVE TOLD US!

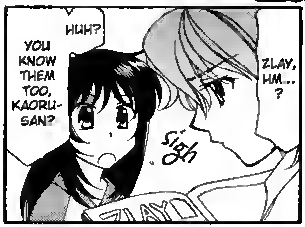

I BEAT THEM ALL UP
I take my work very seriously
I DON'T LIKE ADULTS WHO AREN'T VERY CONSCIOUS OF THEIR WORK
..
So that's why
..I SEE
She didn't come to work back then

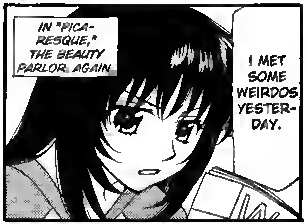
I DON'T WANT RAN-CHAN TO HAVE TO GO THROUGH THAT FROM THE VERY BEGINNING!!
RIGHT, RAN-CHAN?!
THAT'S RIGHT!!
I CAN'T FORGIVE THEM FOR MOLESTING YOU, JULIA-SAN!
...IF I'D BEEN THERE, I WOULD HAVE PUNCHED THEM FOR YOU...!
HUNH...?
HUH...?
NO, THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT...
UM...
GOOD LUCK WITH YOUR AUDITION...
IF YOU'RE WILLING TO DO IT, THEN IT'LL BE NEXT MONTH—.
YES!
dizziness
dizziness

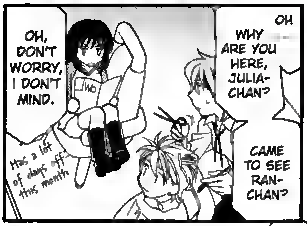
A BREAK
SIGH—
WAITING FOR HER APPEARANCE ON A VARIETY SHOW
RAN-CHAN'S AUDITION IS NEXT WEEK ALREADY, HUH?
I'M WORRIED ABOUT HER
BECAUSE SHE'S SO RESERVED...
HOT
I wonder if she'll be able to do things all right...
!
NO, NO! THIS IS NO GOOD, NO GOOD!
WORK AND PRIVATE FEELINGS HAVE TO BE KEPT SEPARATE!
IN LOVE,
HUH?
I mean you
WH-
WHAT?! WHO ARE YOU?
YES.
YOU'RE DEFINITELY IN LOVE.
AND WITH A GIRL.
THUD
THUD
THUD
GULP

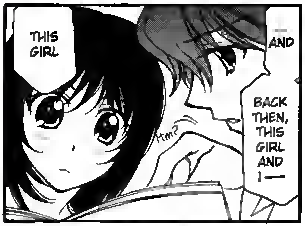
*THIS IS A TAKEOFF ON THE REAL JAPANESE BAND GLAY

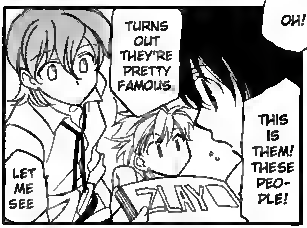
TRIED TALKING ABOUT IT

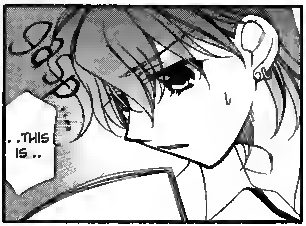












AND THEN,
THE DAY OF THE AUDI-TION.
GET INCRE-DIBLY NER-VOUS ...
WHAT'LL I DO, WHAT'LL I DO?
...OH, I'M DONE FOR
MY EYES ARE SPINNING ...
HEY...
YOU OKAY?
I-
I'D FOR-GOT-TEN...
IN THIS KIND OF SITUATION, I
THE WAITING ROOM.
—...

●百合姉妹次号は7月27日発売予定
ついに創刊1周年★感謝のゲスト連載&もしかして増ページ?でますますパワーアップ予定です★
OH,
IF ONLY JULIA-SAN WERE HERE WITH ME I COULD USE HER HELP AT TIMES LIKE THIS
I feel sticky
BUT
I COULDN'T ASK HER TO DO THAT!
THUD
SHE'S WORKING REALLY HARD RIGHT NOW!
HEY!
YOU REALLY OKAY?!
THUDGAAH
EX-CUSE ME — IS ASAKAWA RAN-SAN PRESENT?
CLICK
I WAS ASKED TO GIVE YOU SOME-THING
HOW STRANGE, THOUGH — ASKING ME TO BRING IT TO A PLACE LIKE THIS
YES?
PURRLE
GOOD LUCK
FROM MOM & DAD

THAT WAS A GOOD DECISION, IF I DO SAY SO MYSELF!
Now, work, work!
Yeah
SINCE I'M DOING IT ANONYMOUSLY, IT'S FINE FOR ME TO SUPPORT HER EVEN THOUGH SHE'S MY RIVAL!
Really stretching...?
RIGHT!
SHE'LL NEVER KNOW IT WAS ME...
BUILDING
SHRIEK
IT'S YOU, JULIA-SAAAN!!
I KNEW IT!
SHE WAS DEAD SERIOUS
...
JOKE
HUH
Huh
YOU WERE THE ONLY ONE I COULD THINK OF WHO WOULD PLAY THAT SORT OF JOKE ON ME
HOW DID I KNOW...?
Of course!
RA-RAN-CHAN
THANK YOU FOR THE FLOWER
I'M GLAD I CAUGHT UP WITH YOU!
PANT
PANT
HOW DID YOU KNOW...?

TRIED BEING CONFUSED
TRIED CALMING DOWN
LET'S DO A CHARM AGAINST NERVOUSNESS!
HEY, LET'S DO "THAT."
YES!
...HSSSSH...
I- I MIGHT HAVE CALMED DOWN A LITTLE NOW THAT YOU'RE HERE, JULIA-SAN...
THEN SWALLOW IT!
WRITE THE CHARACTER FOR "PERSON" ON THE PALM THREE TIMES—
YES!
Per-son
SORRY FOR THE TROUBLE
Oh
HERE, DRINK SOME COFFEE.
YOU CAN'T DO ANYTHING WHEN YOU'RE SO TENSE.
CHOMP
REALLY?
I'VE CALMED DOWN NOW REALLY.
MY—.
trumble
trumble
AHH—!
START
AHH—!
Did I do it wrong?!
HAHA...
PIECE OF CAKE, PIECE OF CAKE
Y-...
YOU'RE NOT CALM AT ALL, RAN-CHAN!!
SHAKE
Splash!
SHAKE
SHAKE
YOU OKAY—?!

OH!
DARN I HAVE TO GET GOING.
HUH .?!
WELL, GOOD LUCK, RAN-CHAN
TELL ME ALL ABOUT IT LATER.
YOU'RE
RAN-CHAN?
GOING ALREADY .?
SNIFFLE
GUH
clench
ACK!
RAN-CHA-
I'M SORRY, JULIA-SAN! I KNOW YOU'RE BUSY!
wobble
YEAH!
I SHOULDN'T WHINE
I'LL DO MY BEST, SO YOU DO TOO, JULIA-SAN—

WORK...
WITH YOUR...
GRAB
J-...
JULIA-SAN...?
trumble
trumble
trumble
DON'T DEPEND ON ME——!!
SLAM
WHOOSH
IN THE ENTER-TAINMENT WORLD, IT'S THE SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST!!
YOU WON'T SURVIVE IF YOU'RE SO SPOILED!
GEEZ, I WONDER WHAT I DID WRONG IN YOUR TRAINING?!
Storming off
Storming off
Storming off
...
THANKS, JULIA-SAN.
...OH—. THAT WAS CLOSE.
I WAS ABOUT TO DO THIS AND THAT TO HER
Seriously
What's "this and that"?

VRR
TRIED WRAPPING THINGS UP
IN A TAXI.
YES, VERY
This little brat says she has no time
WELL THEN, ARE YOU SATISFIED NOW, TACHIBANA-SAN?
IT'S BEEN A VERY FRUITFUL TIME FOR ME
I'VE BEEN A LITTLE WORRIED ABOUT RAN-CHAN TOO.
WELL, I SUPPOSE IT'S ALL RIGHT. I'LL OVERLOOK IT THIS TIME.
...SIGH.
THE COM-MERCIAL IS FOR A BATH-HOUSE.
THERE'S A SWIM-SUIT COMPE-TITION.
SWIM SUIT...?
S-
THERE ARE LIMITED STYLES IN HER SIZE.
BUT THE ONLY WORRY I HAVE LEFT IS HER SWIM-SUIT.
There aren't many cute ones
DON'T MIND HER, DRIVER, JUST KEEP GOING!
SLAM
SWIM SUIT!
TURN AROUND——!!
TURN THE CAR AROUND!!!

THREE DAYS PASSED WHILE THEY WAITED FOR THE RESULTS OF THE AUDITION.
.. AND JULIA-CHAN,
AFTER THIS, YOU HAVE A MAGAZINE-..
OUT OF IT
ABOUT THE RESULT OF RAN-CHAN'S AUDITION
IT KIND COMES OF TO MIND, .. AND THEN I THINK ABOUT IT FOR A WHILE.
HEY, JULIA-CHAN, ARE YOU LISTENING?
YES?
..OH, SORRY.
...WELL, THAT'S TRUE, BUT...
IF THAT HAPPENS, I WON'T BE ABLE TO SPEND AS MUCH TIME WITH HER THAT'S WHAT I'VE BEEN THINKING.
IF SHE'S CHOSEN, SHE'LL DEBUT, WON'T SHE?
You're right I would think so
GEEZ, YOU'RE SO OUT OF IT.

GAH!
COME OUT OF IT, RAN-CHAN!
YOU TOO?!
OH, SAEKI-SAN.
OUT OF IT
MEAN-WHILE...
I'M THINK-ING ABOUT A LOT OF THINGS I CAN'T HELP IT.
IF I PASS, I WON'T BE ABLE TO HANG AROUND JULIA-SAN MUCH ANY-MORE.
IT'S WEIRD THAT I'M WORRYING ABOUT IT EVEN THOUGH IT HASN'T BEEN DECIDED YET.
sigh
SIGH. ...RAN-CHAN.
H-...
sigh
JULIA-SAN...
HEY, HEY, HEY, HEY, HEEEEY!!
What's this
?!!

SO.
UN-FORTU-NATELY ...
YOU WEREN'T SELECTED.
SHA-CHOU.
SHA-CHOU
JUST THAT BECAUSE YOU'RE SO TALL, THERE'S A BIG HEIGHT DISCREPANCY WHEN YOU'RE NEXT TO THE CHILDREN IN THE COMMERICAL...
...
OH!
PLEASE DON'T BE DISAPPOINTED. THEY SAID THEY HAVE NO OBJECTIONS TO YOUR LOOKS OR STYLE.
THOSE TWO AREN'T LISTEN-ING.
LOOKS LIKE I FAILED, JULIA-SAN...
THAT'S NO GOOD.
WELL, JUST WORK HARD FROM NOW ON.
SMILE
SMILE
SMILE
OH?
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THOSE TWO...?
SAEKI SENSED A CRISIS.

H-
STRIVING TO BE A TALENT AT SHANGHAI ENTERTAINMENT TACHIBANA JULIA (16)
HEAVY
HOW FOOLISH
YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO BRING ALL THE OTHER PEOPLE'S FLOWERS HOME WITH YOU
From their dressing room...
MANAGER: SAEKI RYOUKO
I can't believe them!
THEY SAID THEY WERE GOING TO THROW THEM OUT
IT'S SUCH A WASTE THERE ARE EDIBLE FLOWERS IN HERE TOO
DON'T SAY THINGS THAT COULD CREATE MISUNDERSTANDINGS ABOUT THE FOOD AT OUR OFFICE.
GREW UP POOR
WHAT—? BUT
I'LL GO BRING THE CAR AROUND
GO TO THE LOBBY RAN-CHAN IS WAITING THERE
YE-ES

*KOUHAI: JUNIOR, HASN'T BEEN WORKING AS LONG AS JULIA
ZZZ
KOUHAI* TALENT (HASN'T DEBUTED YET), ASAKAWA RAN (16)
CURRENTLY MENTORED BY JULIA
+ JULIA'S CRUSH
PA
N
G
ONCE AGAIN, SHE'S
WORRLE
WORRLE
WORRLE
SHE REALLY CAN SLEEP ANYWHERE, ANYTIME CAN'T SHE

FLOWERING ROMANCE EXPLOSIVELY RINSE BOTH LOVE AND MUSIC, CREATING EVOCATIVE LAUGHTER!!

ストロベリーシェイク

STRAWBERRY SHAKE

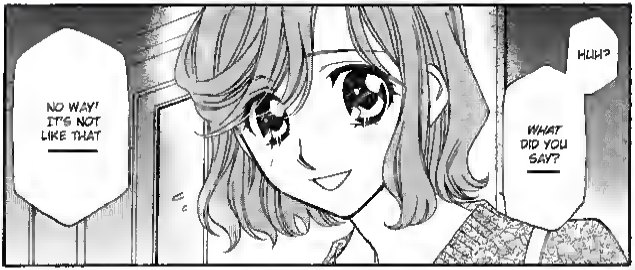
Shiduru Hayashiya
林家志弦

RUSHING INTO THE FOURTH CHAPTER IN THE POPULAR SERIALIZED MANGA!

ERK
WELL,
IT SEEMS SHE JUST HAS A COLD.
So I'll be aiming for her exam.
SAEKI-SAN COLLAPSED —!?
WHY?
SAEKI'S KOUHAI A SAEKI-WANNABE SUDOU MEGUMU (3S)
IT-
IT'S NOT MY FAULT, RIGHT —?
I WONDER IF HER FATIGUE CAUGHT UP WITH HER
SAEKI-SAN ISN'T THE SORT OF PERSON WHO'D USUALLY TAKE THE DAY OFF JUST BECAUSE OF A COLD—
OH.
— YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT
BUT IT'S A REAL HELP
THAT YOU HAVE A WEEK OFF STARTING TOMORROW, JULIA-CHAN

SHE'S THE PERSON WHO'S LOOKED AFTER ME EVER SINCE MY DEBUT, AND SHE'S NEVER TAKEN ANY TIME OFF BEFORE
YEAH,
WELL,
Yeah
Alright
Starting tomorrow Hmm
ARE YOU WORRIED?
HUH!?
...
Beep...
WELL, IT'S PERFECT TIMING MAYBE I'LL GO PAY HER A VISIT AND SUCK UP A LITTLE.
WHAT!?
I'LL GO WITH YOU!!!

IF THEY WERE COMRADES
IF IT WERE UNEXPECTED
HEH...
IT'S HER. DON'T YOU GET IT?
SUDOU-SAN!?
BUT WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY "COMRADES"?
I'VE SENSED THE AURA OF A WOMAN WHO IS IN LOVE WITH HER SAME-SEX SEMPAI* TWO LEVELS ABOVE HER IN THE COMPANY
WOW, THAT'S REALLY SPECIFIC
*SEMPAI: SENIOR, BEEN WORKING AT THE COMPANY LONGER
IT SEEMS THAT THE TIME HAS COME FOR SOME NEW COMRADES TO APPEAR
WHOA
ZLAY!!
WHERE DO YOU ALWAYS POP UP FROM!?
ZLAY?
AND
THIS ONE IS YOURS, RIGHT?
PRETTY GOOD
P-
PLEASE STOP. SHE'S NOBODY, SO—!!
WE'RE ZLAY BUT WE'RE NOT!
BECAUSE IT'S JUST THE TWO OF US TODAY!
THAT'S STRANGE. SHE DOESN'T HAVE THE AURA OF ONE OF OUR COMRADES
HM?
I KNOW — I HAVE NO HOPE...
THAT'S RIGHT...
Please...
Not at all
At all
IN OTHER WORDS, WE'RE ON A DATE
I'M NOT LISTEN-ING!!!
The other two are doing something even better!
To them
I-...


HUH?
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
NO WAY! IT'S NOT LIKE THAT

BUT IT'S MY FIRST TIME GOING TO SAEKI-SAN'S HOUSE
NO BASED ON HER IMAGE MAYBE IT WILL BE A MEN'S DRESS SHIRT?
SINCE SHE'S SICK, SHE'LL PROBABLY BE IN PAJAMAS
HUH?

OF COURSE NOT
THAT GROUP ALWAYS LATCHES ONTO THAT IDEA.
THAT'S RIIIGHT!
IN FILM STUDIO

SHE'S TOTALLY LIKE THAT!!!
I'm looking forward to this.
SIGH
OH, NO MY HEART IS GOING TO START RACING NOW..
I WONDER IF I'LL BE ABLE TO KEEP MY COOL
SQUISH

SAEKI-SAN DOES A LOT FOR ME
AT A TIME LIKE THIS I WANT TO MAKE IT UP TO HER
Yup! Yup!

SO...
YOU KNOW
SAEKI
Saeki
I JUST HAVE A COLD...
YOU GUYS ARE GOING OVERBOARD, ALL COMING TO SEE ME AT ONCE
YEAH
YOU SHOULD HAVE TOLD ME YOU WERE COMING, KAORU-SAN
Well
SAME TO YOU, JULIA-CHAN.
TEAM SHINJOU
TEAM TACHIBANA
Tachibana
YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE LET THEM COME EITHER, SUDOU-SAN
YES!
IT'S TABOO TO BRING A TALENT INTO A SICKROOM, ISN'T IT!?
SO YOU'RE IN THE MEN'S DRESS SHIRT CAMP, SAEKI-SAN!
I'M IMPRESSED!
WHAT DOES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH ANYTHING!?

BAM
TAP
HOW ARE YOU DOING, RYOUKO?
...OH, MY. YOU STILL HAVE A BIT OF A FEVER.
WELL, MORE IMPORTANTLY,
. DON'T DO NASTY THINGS OUT OF THE BLUE LIKE THAT!
SORRY, IT WAS OUT OF HABIT...
NNN
THE ATMOSPHERE IN HERE IS PRETTY TERRIBLE
OH...
SHINJOU ''
glare glare
KAORU-SAN ''
glare

LIKEWISE, IF IT WERE AROUND THAT TIME
IF IT WERE AROUND THAT TIME
—I THINK CRYING OUT FIERCELY IS GOOD ONCE IN A WHILE
—AND (THE OTHER HALF OF) ZLAY
..!
twitch
THAT WOULD BE OUT OF CHARACTER.
I CAN'T, SAI
I'M SENSING A REALLY INCREDIBLE WAVE OF EMOTION COMING FROM THE SOUTH
WHAT'S WRONG, RYOU?
IT'S NOT A MATTER OF LIKE OR DISLIKE
WHAT, YOU DON'T LIKE THAT SORT OF THING, RITSU?
SAEKI RYOUKO (27)'S APARTMENT
IN THAT DIRECTION WAS
OH — SO THAT'S IT. —
SHE'S BASICALLY TONE DEAF, AFTER ALL
SHOUTING IS GOOD AND ALL, BUT IF THE MUSIC HAS SEVERE HIGHS AND LOWS IT'S TOO HARD FOR RYOU
THEY WERE COMPOSING MUSIC
ta-ta-ta-ta
twang
twang
twang
WHERE DO YOU WANT TO GO NEXT REKI?
WELL, I DON'T REALLY CARE
BUT SINCE THEY WERE ON A DATE, (THAT HALF OF) ZLAY WASN'T CONCERNED ABOUT IT
THE MUSIC STORE
Anny Yasuda

DO YOU HAVE GUESTS, SAEKI-SAN?
THERE WERE A TON OF SHOES IN THE ENTRANCE
CLICK
RAN-CHAN!?
AH!
SO IT WAS JULIA-SAN AND THE OTHERS
Otsukare sama desu
WHY IS RAN-CHAN HERE...?
HUH?
HUH?
SHE EVEN WENT SHOPPING FOR ME IT WAS A BIG HELP
SHE'S BEEN HERE SINCE THIS MORNING
*SAID AFTER ONE FINISHES WORK..
DON'T PICK A FIGHT WITH ME...
Thassa ace job you got there, Saeki tha manager
Since this morning ..... !?

OH, WELL THEN
I'LL START COOKING RIGHT AWAY
NONE OF YOU HAVE EATEN YET, RIGHT?
IT-IT'S OKAY, RAN-CHAN!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO ACT LIKE HER WIFE!!
JUST THROWING SOME READY-MADE OKAYU* IN THE MICROWAVE WOULD BE PLENTY GOOD ENOUGH!!
YOU
*RICE PORRIDGE OFTEN SERVED TO SICK PEOPLE
IT-.
THUD THUD THUD THUD
RAN-CHA——
AWW... JEEZE I'LL HELP YOU!
YES?
POP
I GOT TO SEE SOMETHING NICE!
GOOD JOB, SAEKI-SAN'S COLD...!!
GO HOME ALREADY

...I DON'T HAVE ANY CONFIDENCE IN MY COOKING EITHER, THOUGH...
I WANT SAEKI-SAN TO GET BETTER SOON
SQUE AK
chop chop chop
WOW.
YOU'RE REALLY USED TO DOING THIS, RAN-CHAN.
AHA HA HA...
THIS IS ABOUT THE BEST I CAN DO.
SO YOU LIKE SAEKI-SAN, RAN-CHAN
_O-OH_
HM _?
WELL OF COURSE I DO!
SAEKI-SAN IS VERY IMPORTANT TO ME!!
SHOCK

I-
I SEE
I never thought it'd be Saeki-san
BUT
I'M SURE SHE'S EVEN MORE IMPORTANT TO YOU THAN SHE IS TO ME
chop
chop
chop
IF I HAD TO PICK ONE REASON OR THE OTHER, I'D SAY THAT I WANT SAEKI-SAN TO GET BETTER
BECAUSE I KNOW YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT HER.
Oh, I'm worried about her too, of course, u"

RAN-CHAN,
DOES THAT MEAN —
stand
AH!
CRASH
GAH— I'VE REALLY DONE IT NOW!
The plate
OH— IT'S FINE! I'LL CLEAN IT UP!
DON'T TOUCH IT WITH YOUR BARE HANDS —
AH! OUCH!
I TOLD YOU NOT TO—!!!
I'LL GET YOU A BAND-AID
CHOMP
rip
PLEASE HOLD STILL!

EEK
UMM
WHY
DOES THIS LOOK LIKE A MURDER SCENE—?
WH—
WHERE SHOULD I STOP THE BLEEDING FIRST—— SAEKI-SAN——?
AHH
confused
confused
SAEKI-SAN SAW THE WHOLE SCENE PLAY OUT, AND HER FEVER WENT UP A BIT

IT'S ALL DONE!
OKAAAY!
TODAY IS A SAEKI FESTIVAL!!!
IT'S FULL OF MY FEELINGS OF GRATITUDE (ESPECIALLY FOR TODAY)
THIS IS A SPECIAL STAMINA MEDLEY SOUP FOR YOU, SAEKI-SAN ——♡
ARGH
SPLASH
SHE'S SO ANNOYING
IN HIGH SPIRITS
THIS IS INCREDIBLE! YOU MADE THIS ALL YOURSELF, RAN-CHAN?
WOW!
WELL
JULIA-SAN HELPED, TOO, BY SAMPLING
AND STUFF
MM.
NOW THEN

HERE
SAY "AHH," RYOUKO...
pff
?
KA-
KAORU-SAN~~~!!
FORGIVE ME, HARUNA-CHAN
THIS IS MY JOB
WHAT JOB!!!?
HA-
HARUNA-CHAN...
URGH

THEN I'LL EAT IT IN PLACE OF SAEKI-SAN ——!!!
WHY —!!?
HERE, SAY "AHH"!!
THEN I'LL FEED YOU, KAORU-SAN ——!!
TURNED INTO QUITE A FIASCO, HASN'T IT...?
IT'S REALLY
SH—RICK
skriek
I'M JUST KIND OF HAPPY
OH I'M SORRY
HUH?
OH?
WHY ARE YOU SMILING, RAN-CHAN?

...I'VE BEEN LIVING ON MY OWN FOR A LONG TIME, FOR VARIOUS REASONS.
HUH ...!?
SO I FEEL LIKE THIS SORT OF THING IS FUN, YOU KNOW?
I'M SURE YOU OF ALL PEOPLE CAN UNDERSTAND THAT, JULIA-SAN.
THAT'S RIGHT.
HOW ABOUT WE COME OVER TO SAEKI-SAN'S PLACE ONCE IN A WHILE?
OKAY!
ARGH ——
...
YOU GUYS .....
IT'S SAID THAT AFTER THAT SAEKI SPENT THE WHOLE WEEK IN BED
sparkle
NEVER DARKEN MY DOORSTEP AGAIN ——!!!

Continued

SUMMARY
A NEW IDOL, TACHIBANA JULIA, FELL IN LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT WITH HER KOUHAI ASAKAWA JIAN, WHO SHOULD HAVE BEEN HER... KALI! SAIGO RYOUKO, JULIA'S MANAGER, CONSTANTLY WORRIES OVER JULIA AS JULIA PURSUES HER LOVE. THE FACT THAT JIAN IS BLISSFULLY IGNORANT OF ALL THIS IS A SMALL MERCY. T.N.
TODAY IS THE WRAP FOR THE FIRST DRAMA I'VE EVER STARRED IN, THE SEPTEMBER DRAMA "GIRLS' SCHOOL MACHINE GUNS"
I'M HEART-THROB A. I'M ON MY WAY UP IN THE ACTING WORLD!
IT'S ALL GIRLS.
SHRIEK
SHRIEK
I WAS THE STAR OF THE DRAMA, BUT I BARELY APPEARED IN IT AT ALL
I HAVE NO NAME.
~NOTE TEACHER~
SEEEEEN-SE!*!
I'VE BEEN WAITING A LONG TIME FOR THIS DAY,
BE CAU SE

★ This is a work of fiction. Any resemblance to actual persons, groups, or events is strictly coincidental.

ストロベリーシェイク

STRAWBERRY SHAKE

林家志弦

Shiduru Hayasiya

20 EXCITING PAGES OF ROMANCE AND COMEDY!

HEY, HEY.
THE FILMING'S OVER NOW, SO STOP CALLING ME SENSEI, OKAY---?
haha
haha
WHAA-AAT?
BUT IT'D FEEL WEIRD TO CALL YOU SOMETHING OTHER THAN SENSEI NOW...
haha
ACTUALLY, I DON'T REMEMBER HIS NAME.
THAT'S IT
HA-HA
THAT SMILE DEFINI-TELY MEANS THERE'S SOME HOPE FOR ME.
---JULIA-CHAN
WE WON'T BE STUDENT AND TEACHER ANYMORE AFTER THIS
HOW ABOUT WE LET GO OF OUR ROLES ---
AND START A RELATION-SHIP...?

gasp
...OH...
OKAY
THAT'S THAT, THEN.
I'M SUCH A LADY-KILLER. CHICKS FALL FOR ME LIKE THAT.
THEN
WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO OUT FOR DINNER ...
Where are you looking?
SMACK
TONIGHT WITH MRF---!!!
RAN-CHAAA-AAN!
Julia-saaaaan!
AND HE'S OUT LIKE THAT!

I LOST, DIDN'T I?
WHAT'S GOING ON?
NOBODY ASKED ME TO COME BUT I CAME ANYWAY.
WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE...?
I came because there are lots of girls here
Isn't she the actress from ...LAY...
R-
RYOU-SAN
IN CHARGE OF THE THEME SONG.
Oh there and there
Where were you
LIN-GU
WH-WHAT'S GOING ON...?
SO THEY NATURALLY WANT TO PURSUE THE PERSON WHO IS MORE BEAUTIFUL.
GIRLS' MINDS ARE MADE OF FANTASY.
YOU DON'T SEEM TO KNOW THIS SO HERE'S A PIECE OF ADVICE YOUNG-'UN
There are you
Ooh!
THERE'S SOMEONE JULIA WAS IN SUCH A RUSH TO GET TO THAT SHE'D EVEN THRUST ME ASIDE...
AND IT'S A GIRL...!?
GIVEN THE CHOICE BETWEEN THEM, A GIRL WILL PICK THE GIRL!!!
IN OTHER WORDS IF A GUY AND A GIRL ARE EQUALLY ATTRACTIVE,
Be they close friends in their sexes or some thing!
WO-MEN REIGN SUPR-EME.
ARE YOU SAYING YOU LIKE HER BETTER THAN A HUNK LIKE ME, JUL!---
A GIRL...!?
TAP
IN YOUR CASE YOU WEREN'T ON THE SAME LEVEL AS HER ANYWAY.
WE-LL,
Don't look there
WH-OA-AA-AA!
Ouch! It's better to be silent than to be honest
SHE ADDED IN-SULT TO INJURY
ACK!
OF CO-UR-SE!!!!

A SHORT ZLAY FEATURE

HEH.
IMPRE-SSIVE AS USUAL, RYOU.
LOOKS LIKE HE'S ACCEPTED WHAT YOU SAID.
.....
IT LOOKS LIKE THERE'S STILL HOPE FOR HIM.
MAYBE I SHOULD START ALL OVER AGAIN FROM SQUARE ONE...
MAYBE I DO STILL HAVE A WAYS TO GO.

I'M PHENO-MENALLY COOL, AFTER ALL.
BUT OF COURSE
...I LIKE HOW YOU'RE STRANGELY OVERFLOWING WITH CONFI-DENCE, RYOU.
OH, REALLY? I THOUGHT AS MUCH.
HE
HE
HE
HE
HE
I ENVY THOSE TWO.
THEY ALWAYS LOOK LIKE THEY'RE HAVING FUN.
DON'T EXPECT TO GET THAT SORT OF MOOD WITH ME.
Sorry, Rumi-san
You're annoying me
Sorry
THAT WAS ZLAY WITH THEIR COMPLICATED POWER DYNAMICS.
BUT IT REALLY ANNOYS ME HOW YOU ALWAYS GET CARRIED AWAY AND START LAUGHING LIKE AN IDIOT.
It's icky!

THANKS FOR ALL YOUR HARD WORK ON IT JULIA-CHAN
SIGH
IT'S OVER, IT'S OVEEER!
VRR
YOU'VE BEEN TOO DARING LATELY, JULIA-CHAN!
YOU CAN RUB A LOT MORE THAN JUST MY SHOULDERS YOU KNOW THAT...?
OH, NO, RAN-CHAN
AND YOU CAN LET ME RUB YOU TOO
AHA-HA,
I'LL RUB YOUR SHOULDERS FOR YOU LATER
WORKING WITH AN ALL-GIRL GROUP REALLY MAKES YOUR SHOULDERS STIFF----
THAT REALLY WAS A LONG PROJECT
SINCE TODAY'S A SPECIAL DAY---
sigh
...
OH, ALL RIGHT I'LL LET IT GO THIS TIME,

HOW ABOUT WE ALL GO OUT FOR SOME GRILLED MEAT OR SOMETHING TODAY?
OOH!
REALLY ♥ SAEKI-SAAA-
---N?
WELL, YOU WORKED REALLY HARD ON THIS, JULIA-CHAN.
LET'S HAVE A SPECIAL DINNER AT JOJOEN*, REALLY GO ALL-OUT.
OH
WELL-LL
NOTE: A GRILLED MEAT RESTAURANT. SEE HTTP://WWW.JOJOEN.CO.JP FOR PICTURES.

SORRY, SAEKI-SAN.
I'LL HAVE TO DECLINE FOR TODAY.

OH, NO.
WHAT'S WRONG? ARE YOU NOT FEELING WELL?
OH ---.
IT ISN'T ANYTHING LIKE THAT
What is it?
MAYBE I'M JUST TIRED
I DON'T SEEM TO HAVE ANY APPETITE RIGHT NOW.

REA-LLY?
YOU SHOULD HEAD STRAIGHT HOME AND GET SOME REST, THEN.
YEAH
SORRY. PLEASE TAKE ME OUT FOR DINNER SOME OTHER TIME.

SEVERAL DAYS LATER
...
THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED
...
SORRY, I WASN'T LISTENING
I WAS SO ENTRANCED BY YOUR HAIR THAT I WAS OFF IN A DREAM WORLD THERE, RYOUKO.
FOR ALL I CARE, YOU CAN JUST GO ON LIVING IN A DREAM WORLD FOREVER
I can't believe that you're actually jealous of my hair, you...
HAVE YOU HEARD ANYTHING ABOUT IT, KAORU?
SHE HASN'T BEEN EATING MUCH EITHER
EVER SINCE THEN JULIA'S BEEN ACTING REALLY STRANGELY
HMM-MM?
"PICARESQUE" BEAUTY PARLOR
LETTING YOU TOUCH MY HAIR IS SO AGONIZING THAT IT MAKES ME WANT TO DIE, BUT I WAS SO WORRIED ABOUT HER THAT I CAME HERE ANYWAY
YOU'D BETTER MAKE YOURSELF USEFUL!
TH-
THAT'S AWFUL! YOU'RE SO AWFUL RYOUKO-OOOO!!
AAAAH!
WELL
SHE HASN'T MENTIONED ANYTHING TO ME

MAYBE IT REALLY IS "THAT"
SIGH
SO, RAN-CHAN,
WHAT DID YOU MEAN BY "THAT"?
UM
L-- LOVE-SICKNESS OR SOME-THING
YOU KNOW
OH, GEEZ! SHE'S BEEN MOONING OVER YOU FOREVER, REN-CHEN. IT'S NOT ANYTHING RE-CENT.
DON'T SAAAY IT, SHINJOU !!!
SEE,
LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENED TO RAN-CHAN.
THAT'S WHY I WANT TO TRY AND FIX THINGS AS SOON AS WE CAN
SO YOU'VE BEEN SITTING OVER THERE ALL THIS TIME, RAN-CHAN...?
STARTLED ME THERE
YES

MAYBE HE'S THE ONE...!!
I REMEMBER NOW. THE OTHER DAY, I SAW HER TALKING WITH THAT MAN WHO PLAYED THE TEACHER ON THAT DRAMA. SHE LOOKED HAPPY...
gasp
OH...
SHE LOOKED HAPPY BECAUSE SHE WAS LOOKING AT RAN
I CAN JUST SEE IT. THE LONELINESS OF NOT BEING ABLE TO SEE HIM AFTER THE FILMING WAS OVER... NOT EVEN BEING ABLE TO GET ANY FOOD DOWN...
SOMETHING LIKE THAT
RIGHT!? RIGHT!?
AHA-AAA.
I SEE NOW...
HEY
YOU KNOW THERE'S NO WAY THAT WOULD HAPPEN. IT'S COMPLETELY RIDICULOUS
THERE'S NO HARM IN SAVING IT!
AND IT SOUNDS MORE INTERESTING!
SO THAT'S IT
SO THAT'S HOW IT IS
I DON'T LIKE LYING!

THAT'S ENOUGH, ISN'T IT?
PITIFUL, ISN'T SHE?
YOU
The rest of the staff have all gone home already
WELL,
THAT'S FINE--- WE CAN FINALLY BE ALONE TOGETHER NOW!
NEVER LEARN, DO YOU ...!?
LIRK
SO RAN-CHAN, YOU REALLY DO...
SHE'S DEPRE-SSED, SHE'S DEPRE-SSED
Oh dear
WELCOME HARUNA-CHAN YOU'RE LATE TODAY.
OH!
KAORU-SAN
I'M SO LOVESICK OVER YOU THAT I CAN'T EAT EITHER...
YOU'RE SO AWFUL KAORU-SAN
SHIVER
OHHH?
WE'LL SUPPORT THEM IN THEIR RELATION-SHIP!
NOW THAT WE KNOW THE PROBLEM, WE KNOW JUST WHAT TO DO!!
OHHH!
THEN JULIA-SAN WILL BE BACK TO NORMAL AGAIN!!
OH, NO! I'LL GO, I'LL GO! I'M GOING ---!!!
HUH ...!?
BUT I GUESS THAT WON'T WORK, SINCE YOU CAN'T EAT
THAT'S TOO BAD I MADE A RESERVA-TION AT A RES-TAURANT FOR TONIGHT SINCE I WAS PLANNING TO INVITE YOU OUT TO DINNER,
you meanie--!
WHATEVER, JUST PLEASE CUT MY HAIR ALREADY
LOOKS LIKE SHE ISN'T AWARE OF JULIA'S FEELINGS AT ALL
WELL
I'M GOING TO DO MY BEST ---!
THUD
THUD
THUD
THUD
THUD
EVEN I FEEL SORRY FOR JULIA

THANK GOOD-NESS..
NOW THAT I KNOW WHAT'S CAUSING THE PROBLEM I CAN DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT,
AND JULIA-SAN WILL GET HER APPETITE BACK
Oo
FOR NOW, I JUST NEED TO WORK SOMETHING OUT SO THAT THEY CAN SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN...
...
...
squee
ze
BUT WHAT SHOULD I DO?
squee
ze
SO FIRST, I HAVE TO ARRANGE THINGS SO THEY'LL MEET UP ---
ER!
WHAT'S GOING ON? MY BROW SEEMS TO HAVE SOME WEIRD SORT OF TENSION TO IT
OH?
OH!
What's going on
!?
Oh geez!
?

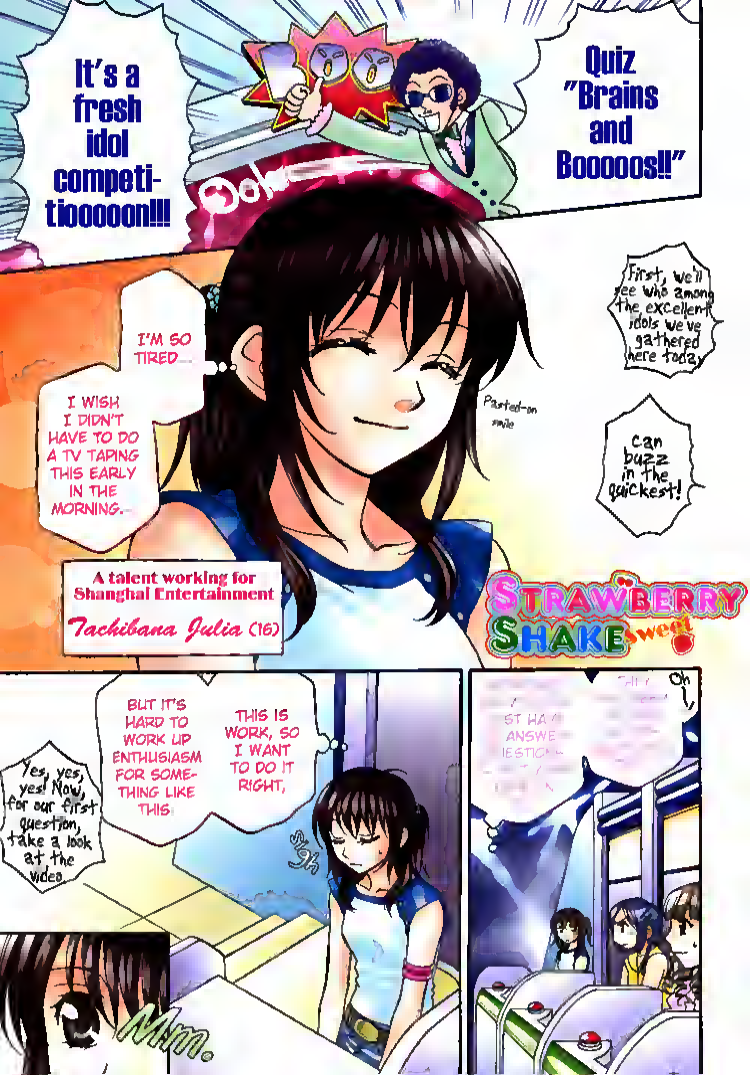
ALL THIS TENSION KEPT TURNING UP IN MY HEAD LAST NIGHT, FOR SOME REASON
I COULDN'T GET MY THOUGHTS IN ORDER.
SO,
THE NEXT DAY
SIGH
MY HEAD SORT OF HURTS
BUT IF I DON'T DO SOMETHING SOON,
JULIA-SAN WILL
HM?
MMYRR
OH
RAN-CHAN! YOU'RE HERE
HUH?
URGH ---
---- WE HAVE A BIT OF A PROBLEM HERE ...!
I'll go contact a person.

MORNING, RAN-CHAN ---!
OH ---.
J-
JULIA-SAN!!?
WH-WH-WH-WH-
WELL,
I WAS FEELING KIND OF ANEMIC
IT TURNS OUT SKIPPING BREAKFAST REALLY ISN'T A GOOD IDEA.
I'LL FEEL GOOD AS NEW IF I EAT A LITTLE SOMETHING NOW.
SO
JULIA-SAN,
COULD YOU KEEP AN EYE ON HER FOR A LITTLE WHILE, RAN-CHAN?
I'm going to go home and get some medicine
HUH?
YES?
IF IT'S ENOUGH TO MAKE YOU THIS SICK
YOU MUST REALLY LOVE
HIM
HUH?
WHO?

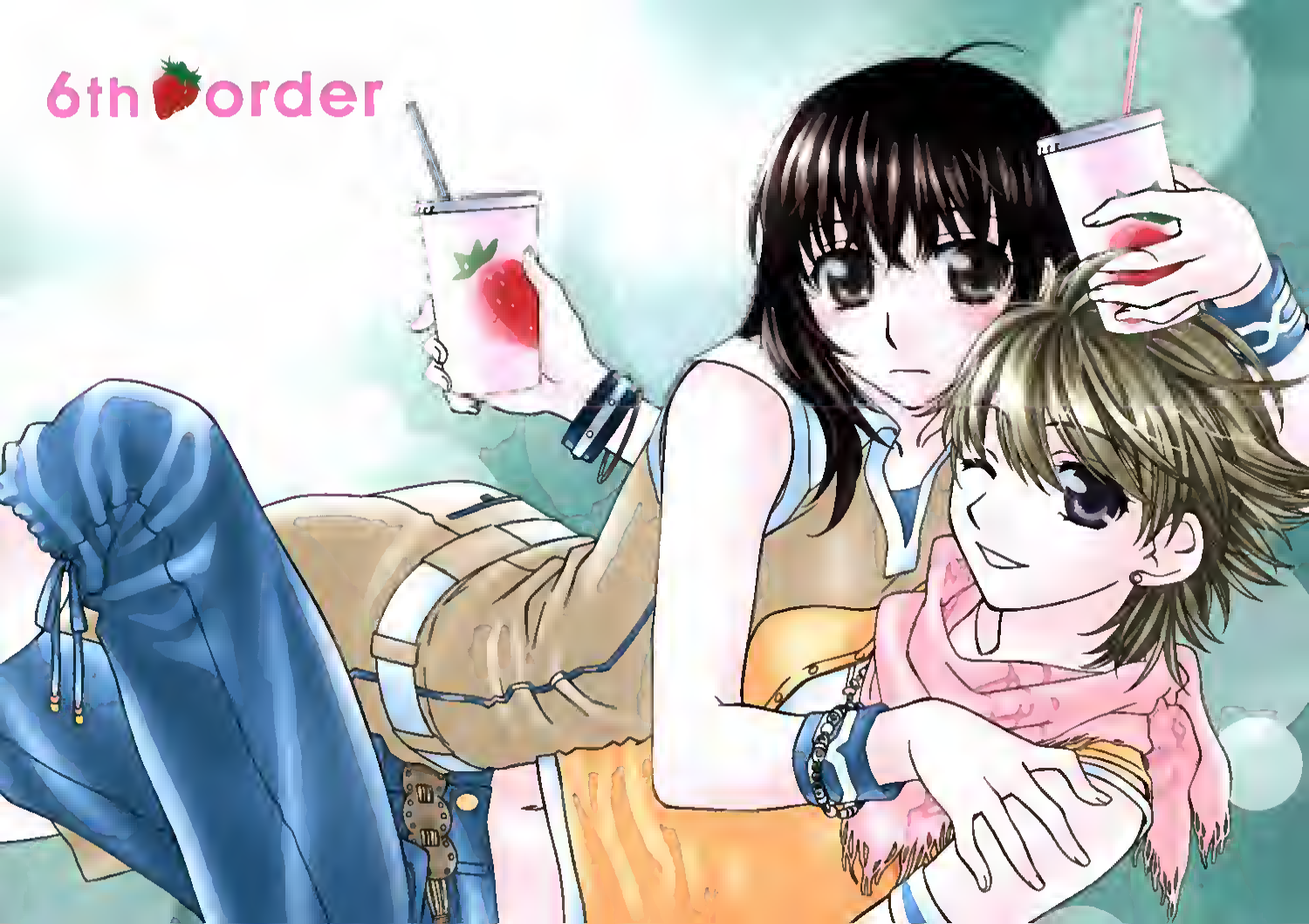
I'M REALLY SORRY. I COMPLETELY MISUNDERSTOOD!
OH, NO!
YOU MISUNDERSTOOD ME
YOU THINK I'D LOSE MY APPETITE OVER SOMETHING LIKE THAT...?
I DON'T EVEN REMEMBER HIS NAME...
RAN-CHAN
THAT'S COMPLETELY RIDICULOUS
sloom
I DIDN'T TELL ANYONE ABOUT IT BECAUSE I WAS EMBARRASSED, BUT I GUESS IT DOESN'T MATTER ANYMORE.
HUH?
I'M ON A DIET.
BUT THEN WHY ARE YOU...
OH,
I GAINED A WHOLE KILOGRAM*
H-HORRIBLE, ISN'T IT?
THAT'S THE FIRST TIME IT'D EVER HAPPENED TO ME SO I WAS REALLY WORRIED ABOUT IT
*NOTE: ABOUT 2 POUNDS
O-
ONE KILOGRAM?
THAT SORT OF MINOR SHIFT IN WEIGHT IS COMPLETELY NORMAL AT OUR AGE...
YEAH---
FOR NORMAL PEOPLE, ANYWAY

IT'S MY WAY OF SHOWING COURTESY TOWARDS THE PEOPLE WHO WATCH ME YOU KNOW?
BUT THIS IMPACTS MY JOB
I HAVE TO BE ESPECIALLY CAREFUL ABOUT ANYTHING THAT MIGHT IMPACT MY APPEARANCE
THAT'S RIGHT
YEAH
...
THAT'S THE SORT OF PERSON SHE IS
O-
YEAH, RIGHT. BUT THIS KIND OF THREW A WRENCH INTO MY PLANS SO I GUESS THE DIET ENDED UP BEING A FAILURE
WELL, LET'S GET GOING!
...
OKAY,
I'LL CARRY YOU TO THE CAR, THEN—!
LIFT

RAN-CHAN! YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO THAT! I CAN WALK ON MY OWN! AND I'M HEAVY!
RA-RA-RA-RA-
YOU'RE NOT HEAVY AT ALL.
YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN LIGHT, JULIA-SAN
AND NOBODY WHO REALLY LOVES YOU IS CONCERNED ABOUT THINGS LIKE THAT, JULIA-SAN
I SHOULD KNOW-- I'M ONE OF THEM
I'M ONE OF THEM
JULIA-SAN
LOVES KEI-KUN
WHO REALLY LOVES YOU
SO
ARE YOU READY TO GO YET, JULIA-CHAN?
UM, WELL
SHE SEEMS TO HAVE A FEVER NOW...
IS SHE ALL RIGHT?
DON'T WORRY, RAN-CHAN.
THAT FEVER IS ACTUALLY PROOF THAT SHE'S FEELING BETTER.
JULIA GOT ONE STEP CLOSER TO HAPPINESS,
DANGLE
JUST THROW HER TO THE CAT.
AND SAEKI GOT A LITTLE STRONGER
And Ran was a little relieved.
0. Stick finger in
1.
2.


It's a fresh idol competi-tioooooon!!!
Quiz "Brains and Booooos!!"
First, we'll see who among the excellent idols we've gathered here today can buzz in the quickest!
I'M SO TIRED...
I WISH I DIDN'T HAVE TO DO A TV TAPING THIS EARLY IN THE MORNING...
Pasted-on smile
A talent working for Shanghai Entertainment
Tachibana Julia (16)
STRAWBERRY SHAKE sweet
Yes, yes, yes! Now, for our first question, take a look at the video.
BUT IT'S HARD TO WORK UP ENTHUSIASM FOR SOMETHING LIKE THIS.
THIS IS WORK, SO I WANT TO DO IT RIGHT.
Sigh
Mm.
Oh!

6th order



STRAWBERRY SHAKE sweet
YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR IT!!
THE FIRST TANKOUBON OF STRAWBERRY SHAKE IS PLANNED FOR RELEASE SOMETIME IN 2005!!
I CAN'T SEEM TO STOP THESE FEELINGS!
DELIVERING LOVE AND LAUGHTER TO YOU
IN ONE FELL SWOOP!!
THIS IS THE COUPLE MATAOORNS THE BEGINNING OF THE FIRST ISSUE OF THIS MAGAZINE
SUCH A FINE EVENT DESERVING OF COMMEMORATION!
FIRST STORY WITH COLOR
24P
Shiduri Hayashiya
FOUNDER OF THE IDIOTIC YURI GENERATION, A YURI GAG MANGAKA
林家志弦

RAN-RAN ...!
She was here?
RA-
SHOOT UP
Newer Idol
Asakawa Ran (16)
Training for her debut.
.....!
OH!
JULIA-SAAAAN!
GOOOD MORNIIING!
Also the object of Julia's affections
SLAP SLAP SLAP
WEE!
WEE!
WEE!
WEE!
WEE!
.....
.....
.....!!
Whoaaaa! Julia-chan is full of energy ——!!!
The video isn't even over yet!

THIS IS A WORK OF FICTION. ANY RESEMBLANCE TO ACTUAL PERSONS, GROUPS, OR EVENTS IS STRICTLY COINCIDENTAL.

Yaaawn
?
UNG-HHH...
OH!
ARE YOU SLEEPY, RAN-CHAN?
NO! I'M FINE!
YOU'VE HAD A LOT OF LATE NIGHTS AND EARLY MORNINGS LATELY.
HOW ABOUT TAKING TODAY OFF?
I COULD-N'T!
THIS IS EDUCATIONAL FOR ME, SO I'M DOING MY BEST TO TAKE IT IN!
AND JULIA-SAN LOOKS SO FULL OF ENERGY, EVEN THOUGH SHE'S BEEN WORKING SO MUCH.
.....
SHE'S A SPECIAL BREED OF ANIMAL.
Check out my bikini, Ran-chan—!
Yeah——!
What an idiot...
I bet even shooting her wouldn't be enough to take her out

NO, UM—
IT'S NOTHING SO SERIOUS. I JUST...
YOU HAVE A MILD CASE OF INSOMNIA?
OH, NO.
...NOT GETTING ENOUGH SLEEP REALLY ISN'T GOOD, IS IT?
I'VE BEEN HAVING TROUBLE GETTING TO SLEEP LATELY...
sshh——
sshh——
....
THE TRUTH IS...
.....ER,
Are you serious ——?!!

IS IT TRUE THAT SOMEONE'S BEEN FOLLOWING YOU HOME, RAN-CHAN?!!
ANYWAY, THIS IS MORE IMPORTANT!
URK...
GET BACK TO WORK!
.....
.....
.....
JULIA...
Half-naked as you are!
IT'S MY LUNCH BREAK!!
I MIGHT JUST BE IMAGINING IT...
OH... BUT
SAEKI-SAN ALWAYS TAKES ME TO THE CLOSEST STATION,
SO I'M GOING TO A DIFFERENT ONE EVERY TIME IT WOULD BE HARD FOR SOMEONE TO FOLLOW ME ..
That's what I think, anyway
SHE SAID SHE MIGHT JUST BE IMAGINING IT. WHY ARE YOU JUMPING TO CONCLUSIONS?
It's a stalker.
FIGHTI
SPIR

OH...
You're right
THOUGH IF RAN-CHAN REALLY DID HAVE GOOD INTUITION, SHE WOULD HAVE REALIZED WHAT AN EVIL PERSON YOU ARE...
NNNOOO
BUT SAEKI-SAN, RAN-CHAN HAS GOOD INTUITION, YOU KNOW THAT?!
IT MUST BE TRUE THAT SOMEONE'S FOLLOWING HER!!
?
HUH?
OH!
WHAT'S STRANGE IS THAT IT TOOK SO LONG FOR SOMEONE TO NOTICE HER.
WHAT?
IT WOULD BE COMPLETELY NATURAL FOR HER TO HAVE 20 OR 30 STALKERS.
This is probably really obvious, but Ran-chan is cute.
.....
...HEH.
WELL,
I HAD A FEELING THIS WAS GOING TO HAPPEN SOMETIME.
I GET IT. THAT'S ENOUGH. YOU CAN STOP NOW.
LIKE SHE GIVES OFF THE FAINT SCENT OF FLOWERS...
AND SHE HAS A SOFT AIR TO HER...
SHE'S... EXTRA-ORDINARILY CUTE...
THAT'S RIGHT!!
...WHY ARE YOU SO FULL OF YOUR-SELF.....?
Stop it. It's stirring
Ahhh !!
Gaaa
Fine then!
Oh, no! I'm thinking of all sorts of stuff nonsense!

HUU-UH?!
I COULDN'T POSSIBLY ASK YOU TO DO THAT FOR ME!
FIGHSPI
ANYWAY, RAN-CHAN,
I'M GOING TO SEE YOU HOME FROM NOW ON!!
FOR ONE THING, IT WOULD PUT YOU IN DANGER!
IF SOMETHING WERE TO HAPPEN TO YOU.....
I'D SPEND EVERY DAY IN TEARS.
UM.
...BUT YOU ARE IN DANGER, AREN'T YOU?
YEAH.
YOU KNOW, THERE ARE SHADOWS FROM THE VENDING MACHINES NEAR THE LIQUOR STORE,
AND THE VERANDA OF YOUR ROOM IS IN PLAIN VIEW OF THE PARKING LOT BEHIND THE CONVENIENCE STORE.
Whoooo!
YOU KNOW A LOT ABOUT MY NEIGHBORHOOD.
Cheerful about that?
You said dangerously.
I think we know who your stalker is now, Ran-chan.
SO WHAT
FIG

another girl happened to be present in the beauty parlor. Enomoto Haruna (15), an idol at around the same stage as Julia. And she thought to herself

At that moment,

She let her hair grow out

THAT TAKES ME BACK.

A STALKER, HM...?

Head of Picaresque Beauty Parlor
Shinjuu Kaoru

She got a haircut

E-

E-

...EAT ME...!!

...IF I START STALKING KAORU-SAN, SHE MIGHT

Ahaha

ACTUALLY, IT WOULDN'T SURPRISE ME.

JUST BECAUSE I KNEW A LITTLE BIT ABOUT THE AREA AROUND RANRAN'S PLACE...

IT WAS HORRIBLE OF SAEKI-SAN TO SAY THAT, WASN'T IT?

even as a joke

Calling me a stalker,

Lately, she'd been barging into Kaoru's place every night and making her dinner. She was already stalking her!

(Joke)

Sorry to impose on you...!

But then another thought dawned on her.

ONE MALE, AND ONE FEMALE

I EVEN HAD TWO AT THE SAME TIME ONCE—

I'VE HAD STALKERS BEFORE.

ERK?! SO WHAT HAPPENED?!

THAT NIGHT

BUT I AM EATING .....

?

It's good.

...WHY WON'T YOU EAT ...?!!

FOR THE GIRL, I SPENT AN EVENING WITH HER, AND I WAS *RELENTLESS*. I NEVER HEARD FROM HER AGAIN

I HIT THE GUY AND TURNED HIM OVER TO THE POLICE.

WHATEVER LET'S TRY NOT TO EAT ANY MORE GIRLS FOR NOW, HM?

SEVERAL DAYS LATER.
Kizy
...GOOD MORNING...
...
THAT PRESENCE THAT'S BEEN FOLLOWING YOU AROUND HASN'T GONE AWAY?
THAT CAN'T BE!
I GAVE THE CULPRIT A STERN TALKING-TO BEFORE! EVERYTHING SHOULD BE SETTLED NOW!
I'M TELLING YOU, IT'S NOT ME!!
WELL...
YOU LOOK EVEN MORE TIRED THAN YOU DID BEFORE
.....
.....
.....
YOU STILL HAVEN'T BEEN SLEEPING WELL?
NAA-AH...

I'll catch him and get prints of the picture from him!!
Grrrrrr! That's going too far! That pervert...!!
THIS IS PRETTY SERIOUS...
...WELL, LET'S JUST IGNORE THAT.
"That"
I THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE THE FLASH FROM SOMEONE'S CAMERA.
LAST NIGHT, I SAW SOMETHING SHINING IN THE SHRUBS NEAR THE ENTRANCE TO MY APARTMENT BUILDING...
GA—I
SOMEONE TOOK YOUR PICTURE?!
HEH.
YOU'RE REALLY OVERREACTING. IT WAS JUST A PICTURE OR TWO.
WHEN I GO HOME, IT'S AN ELECTRICAL PARADE!

I HAVE A LONG STRETCH OFF FROM WORK
IN OTHER WORDS, I HAVE SOME FREE TIME ON MY HANDS.
ZLAY vocalist Ryou
Pray with me!
badum
badump
badum
ZLAY-san...
.....
.....
.....
ZLAY?!
WHY DID YOU COME ALL THE WAY TO OUR OFFICE.....?
badum
badump
IF YOU LET SOMETHING LIKE THAT GET TO YOU
YOU'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO SURVIVE IN THE WORLD OF SHOW BIZ.
!
HEY, YOU, OVER THERE THE BIG KITTEN.
I heard what you said.
YES?!
YOU SEEM TO BE WORRIED ABOUT A STALKER.
DISPLAYING OURSELVES TO THE WORLD IS PART OF OUR JOB.
YOU HAVE TO UNDERSTAND THAT WHEN YOU ENTER THE WORLD OF SHOW BIZ, YOU LOSE YOUR PRIVATE LIFE ON SOME LEVEL.
AT THE SAME TIME, YOU SHOULD ENJOY IT.

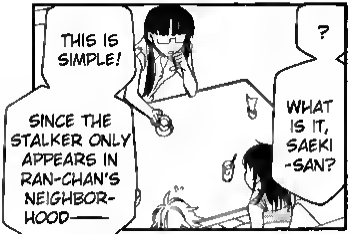
I FEEL LIKE THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE HEARD A MEMBER OF ZLAY SAY SOMETHING SERIOUS...
...
...
.....
.....
ALTH-OUGH
AS LONG AS A FAN DOESN'T CROSS THE LINE, THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.
AND IF THEY DO——
YOU JUST HAVE TO CRUSH THEM MERCILESSLY.
EVEN WITH THOSE STANDARDS, MY BIGGEST PROBLEM IS THE SHEER NUMBER OF FANS.
AT A PEAK TIME, I HAVE 75,000 STALKERS CROWDED AROUND MY PLACE EVERY DAY.
Seventy -five thousand ——!!
These aren't stalkers!!
THAT'S RIGHT. AND THEY'RE ALL GIRLS.
EVEN IF I WERE TO ALLOW THREE OF THEM TO BE WITH ME A DAY, IT WOULD STILL TAKE ME 25,000 DAYS TO GET THROUGH THEM ALL.
That's about 68 years.
Oh——
WELL...
THIS SITUATION HAS CERTAINLY TAKEN A TURN FOR THE WORSE..
Why am I surrounded by women...?

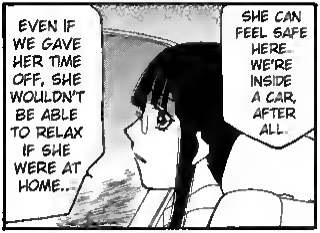
I REALIZED IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO DO THEM ALL, EVEN IF I DEVOTED MY WHOLE LIFE TO IT.
YOU SHOULD'VE REALIZED THAT SOONER.
Working your way through them?
AFTER WORKING MY WAY THROUGH ABOUT 6,000 OF THEM,
BUT ALAS, I AM ONLY HUMAN.
I'm a star, after all. I should treat even stalkers with a certain amount of generosity...
the legendary ZLAY stalker-only concert, the "Stalker's Holy Night"!!
SO I CAME UP WITH ANOTHER WAY OF SATISFYING THE LITTLE KITTENS WHO WERE ALWAYS HANGING AROUND ME.
...YOU GUYS MAY BE STARS, BUT YOU'RE ALSO ALIENS, ZLAY-SAN!!
Such a problem
I'm tired of
Girl
Girl
Girl
Girl
I'VE NEVER HEARD OF THAT CONCERT BEFORE!!
WOW ...!!
SO I WAS BEING NAIVE BEFORE!
SHE WAS MOVED BY WHAT ZLAY-SAN SAID?!
I'll try harder from now on!
How am I supposed to believe that?!
She was there.
IT'S A SECRET
Ranran was cute when she said that

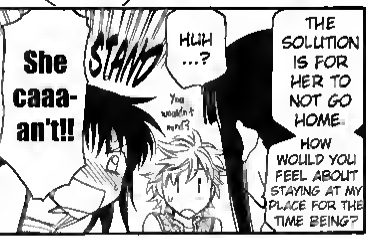
*TSUNG COMEBACKS IN RESPONSE TO STUPID THINGS SAID BY THE "BOKE" THE OTHER HALF OF THE COMIC DUO. IT'S A TYPE OF COMEDY ROUTINE CALLED "MANZAI."

I KNOW!
OH,

SHE'S SOUND ASLEEP ...
OH~ ...


THIS IS SIMPLE!
SINCE THE STALKER ONLY APPEARS IN RAN-CHAN'S NEIGHBOR-HOOD——
?
WHAT IS IT, SAEKI-SAN?


EVEN IF WE GAVE HER TIME OFF, SHE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO RELAX IF SHE WERE AT HOME...
SHE CAN FEEL SAFE HERE. WE'RE INSIDE A CAR, AFTER ALL.


She caaa-an't!!
STAND
You wouldn't mind?
HUH ...?
THE SOLUTION IS FOR HER TO NOT GO HOME.
HOW WOULD YOU FEEL ABOUT STAYING AT MY PLACE FOR THE TIME BEING?

moving in——
I'LL DRIVE HER HOME FOR THE NEXT LITTLE WHILE
EVEN THOUGH HER PLACE IS IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION FROM YOURS

..REMIND ME AGAIN WHY I'M STILL YOUR MANAGER...?
...HOW SHOULD I PUT THIS... SHE'D BE SULLIED!!
IF SHE STARTED LIVING AT YOUR PLACE, SAEKI-SAN
Kaoru-san comes over to your place, doesn't she?!
I've never let her in my apartment when I'm alone.

I COULDN'T HEAR HER BREATHING!
BUT!!
I WAS GOING TO DO MOUTH-TO-MOUTH ON HER!!
BUT I'VE ASKED SUDOU, THAT KOUHAI* OF MINE, TO GIVE ME A HAND WITH-
HEY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING ——?!!

*JUNIOR

OH, NO!
I'M FINE, REALLY!
I could lend you my key
YOU COULD GO TO MY PLACE IF YOU WANTED.
WILL YOU BE ALL RIGHT?
And then...
I HAVE TO GO BACK TO THE OFFICE TODAY BECAUSE OF SOME URGENT ORK
——I'M SORRY, RAN-CHAN
I'LL BE SURE TO TAKE YOU HOME STARTING TOMORROW.
Thank you.
ALL RIGHT!
SHOCK...
I'LL WAIT TO BE AFRAID UNTIL SOME-THING ACTUALLY HAPPENS!
I FEEL A LOT BETTER AFTER WHAT ZLAY-SAN SAID.
IT'LL BE TOO LATE BY THEN, RAN-CHAN!!
SMILE
JULIA, PLEASE TAKE RAN-CHAN HOME WITH YOU, JUST FOR TONIGHT.
I SUPPOSE IT CAN'T BE HELPED
Your place is anyway
.....
I AM A LITTLE WORRIED.

...Have you lost your mind, Saeki-san?!!
Why would I have?!
GAAAASP
shiver
shiver
shiver
you're reaaaally annoying!
.....
.....
...?
I'M TELLING YOU TO HAVE RAN-CHAN SPEND THE NIGHT AT YOUR PLACE.
BUT YOU'RE ALWAYS SAYING THAT RAN-CHAN WOULD END UP PREGNANT IF YOU LEFT THE TWO OF US ALONE TOGETHER!!
Of course she wouldn't! You're both girls! It was a joke! Don't you get it?!
THIS IS TOO WEIRD ...
YOU'VE GOTTA BE PLANNING SOME-THING.
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO'S BEEN STANDING IN OUR WAY...
That's right.
THIS ISN'T SO MUCH A PLAN AS A WAY OF CONFIRMING SOMETHING.
Confir-ming?

Julia,
YOU SEEM LIKE A DANGEROUS PERSON ON THE OUTSIDE,
What?
WELL, IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT OBJECTIVELY
INCOM-PETENT ...?!
THE MORE YOU LIKE SOMEONE, THE MORE COMPLETELY INCOMPETENT YOU ARE.
BUT THE TRUTH IS THAT
WAIT, SAEKI-SAN! DOES THAT MEAN I'LL BE IN AGONY ALL NIGHT?!
SLAM
WELL, I'M OFF, THEN.
YOU WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO LAY A FINGER ON HER!!
IF YOU REALLY SPENT A NIGHT ALONE WITH HER,
VERY BLUNTLY
Uhimpor...
YOU MIGHT BE RIGHT ...!!
SAEKI-SAAAA-AAAN!!
Ha ha ha ha ha
YOU SHOULD JUST LET YOUR WORRYING KEEP YOU UP ALL NIGHT!!
Ha ha
vroom
BURNING RUBBER
Worrying?
Harassment on the part of Saeki whose managerial skills are questionable.

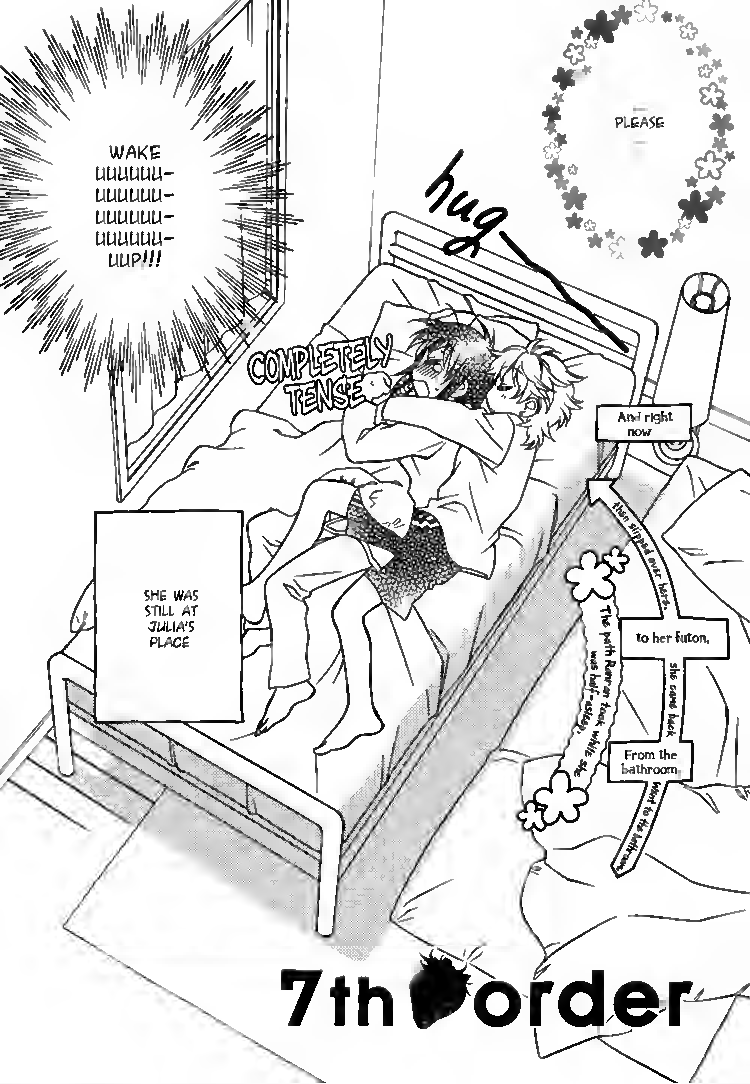
...I DON'T REALLY UNDERSTAND WHAT'S GOING ON...
BUT IF I'M CAUSING YOU ANY TROUBLE, I'M SORRY...
WHOA!
YES?! WHAT IS IT?!
JULIA-SAN?
UM...
And tomorrow's shoot is on location, too...
AHH...
BADUM
IT'S REALLY NOT GOOD OF ME TO IMPOSE ON YOU LIKE THIS WITHOUT ANY NOTICE OR ANYTHING.
WELL, BUT
Let's go!
Let's go,
YOU'RE NOT! NOT AT ALL!
Y-Y-
.....Even though
SO I'LL JUST GO HOME.
AND THEN END UP HAVING TROUBLE WITH TOMORROW'S SHOOT,
I DON'T WANT YOU TO GO OUT OF YOUR WAY FOR ME
JULIA-SAN?
.....

...YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S GOING OUT OF YOUR WAY TO WATCH OUT FOR ME, AREN'T YOU?
been able to sleep lately because she's been so worried, she still...
she hasn't
I'VE NEVER HAD A FRIEND SLEEP OVER BEFORE.——
I FELT SO TENSE ALL OF A SUDDEN
...HUH?
WELL
To be honest, I completely forget about the stalker——
I WAS SO HAPPY!
I'M SORRY. I KIND OF WITHDREW FROM YOU THERE!
YEAH, A FRIEND.
.. A FRIEND.

——SO COME ON OVER, OKAY?
IF YOU DON'T, I'LL BE TWICE AS LONELY BECAUSE YOU GOT MY HOPES UP LIKE THAT.
.....
JULIA-SAN...
ALL RIGHT ...
Um,
I'LL BE IMPOSING ON YOU TONIGHT...
OKAY!
OH!
THAT'S RIGHT. AS MY WAY OF SAYING THANKS...
?

She's got it all wrong.
I'M PRETTY GOOD AT GIVING MASSAGES.
I USED TO DO IT FOR MY FRIENDS FROM CLUB A LOT.
PLEASE LET ME GIVE YOU A FULL-BODY MASSAGE BEFORE BED!
BAM
and, contrary to Sacks's prediction slept like a log all the way 'til morning.
Julia collapsed from anemia the minute she got home.
I'M PRONE TO NOSE-BLEEDS.
I'M FINE. IT SHOULD STOP SOON.
YEAH—
It's a gushing nose!!
EEEEEEK! JULIA-SAN——!!
spurt
spurt spurt
spurt spurt
spurt spurt
spurt

chirp
chirp
chirp
WORRIED ABOUT A STALKER,
ASAKAWA RAN TEMPORARILY TOOK REFUGE AT HER SEMPAI TACHIBANA JULIA'S PLACE
THE NEXT MORNING
RAN-CHAN
IT'S MORNING RAN-CHAN
WAKE UP!
GEEEEZ! YOU'RE SUCH A SLEEPYHEAD!


WAKE
uuuuuu-
uuuuuu-
uuuuuu-
uuuuuu-
uup!!!
hug
PLEASE
COMPLETELY TENSE
And right now
Then slipped over here...
to her futon,
she came back
From the bathroom,
Walked in the dark room
The path Ranran took while she was half-asleep.
SHE WAS STILL AT JULIA'S PLACE
7th order

I'M SORRY, JULIA -SAN
I KNOW IT WAS AWFUL OF ME TO DO THAT AT YOUR APARTMENT
I ALWAYS DO THAT SORT OF THING WHEN I'M HALF-ASLEEP
NO, IT'S FINE! REALLY, I COULD DIE HAPPY NOW!
blusssh
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, RAN -CHAN
RIGHT NOW,
I'M REALLY JUST
ANGRY AT MYSELF
...
HUH?
OH! NO, IT'S NOTHING, I WAS JUST TALKING TO MYSELF!

WHEN JULIA-SAN LOOKS STERN,
THAT MEANS SHE'S THINKING ABOUT WORK
gasp
JULIA-SAN.
IT CAN'T BE. IT JUST CAN'T BE! AM I AN IDIOT? I'M AN IDIOT, AREN'T I? MOST PEOPLE WOULD HAVE DONE SOMETHING IN THAT SITUATION! BUT I DIDN'T! THAT'S_WEIRDER THAN IF I'D DONE SOMETHING!
YOU REALLY THINK ABOUT WORK ALL THE TIME...
YOU'RE SO COOL, JULIA-SAN!
SIGH SHE WAS SO SOFT AGAINST MY BACK
No, focus!
grit grit grit grit grit
I SHOULDA PUT THE MOVES ON HER!!!
SHE WASN'T THINKING ABOUT WORK
... FOUND HER..
RUSTLE

...SHE HASN'T BEEN HOME IN FOUR DAYS...
mutter
I TRACKED HER DOWN WITH THE INFORMATION PEOPLE IN THE AREA GAVE ME.
mutter
mutter
...
I CAN'T BELIEVE SHE BELONGS TO AN AGENCY ALREADY
...
YES, FINALLY...!
I'VE FINALLY FOUND YOU! YOU'RE FROM MAISON HANAFUBUKI!!!!!!
SUDDEN
BADU
MP
AHHHHHH?!!
pant
pant
!!
WH-
WHAT?
J-
JULIA-SAN...!
TWIN
MAISON HANA-FUBUKI
IS THE APARTMENT COMPLEX RAN LIVES IN.

THAT'S THE ONE!
pant
THE PERSON WHO'S BEEN HIDING NEAR MY APARTMENT AND WATCHING ME
WAIT
I- I THINK SO?
THE STALKER?! THIS IS YOUR STALKER?!
---OH I'M SORRY I GOT A BIT TOO EXCITED THERE
I DO THIS TODAY!
startle
huff
huff
huff
WHO?
!!
WHA-
tumble
BUT I WILL
WHACHOO TRYIN' TA DO TA RANRAN?!!!
AHHH-HH!!!

THERE!
Ahp
!
YOU'RE SAFE NOW, RAN-CHAN!!
JULIA -SAN...
J-
YOU MUST HAVE BEEN SCARED! HERE, COME THROW YOURSELF IN MY A--
HUH?
JULIA -SAN THIS IS
...H?
Photographer
Sera Matsuki
---I REAL-
LY...
CAN'T APOLOGIZE ENOUGH---

OH... NO,
IT'S NO PROBLEM REALLY!
REALLY, I CAUSED THE WHOLE MISUNDERSTANDING SO...
ANYWAY, THIS LITTLE TROUBLE-MAKER WILL BE GETTING ANOTHER TALKING-TO LATER
NOW, JULIA YOU OWE HER AN APOLOGY!!
FREELANCE PHOTOGRAPHER SERA MUTSUKI (23)
droop
I- IT'S ALL RIGHT, REALLY
That was a real body blow she hit me with...
SHE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE CONSCIOUS AT THE MOMENT ANYWAY...
AND I AM TRULY SORRY...
THAT I FRIGHTENED YOU, ASAKAWA-SAN
WHEN I'M ABSORBED IN AN IDEA, I DON'T PAY any ATTENTION TO WHAT'S GOING ON AROUND ME
N-
NO, NO NO NEED TO APOLOGIZE!
It's all my fault!
THE TRUTH IS THAT
A PUBLISHING COMPANY I DO SOME WORK FOR
IS PLANNING TO LAUNCH A NEW FASHION MAGAZINE...

UH-HUH
UH-HUH
BUT WHEN I STARTED SHOOTING THE MODEL AND I WEREN'T REALLY COMPATIBLE
AND— WELL, I WAS LUCKY ENOUGH TO BE SELECTED AS A PHOTOGRAPHER FOR THE MAGAZINE
SINCE IT DIDN'T WORK OUT, I TOLD THE EDITING DEPARTMENT I'D FIND A NEW MODEL MYSELF
AND AT LONG LAST, I FOUND ONE
ASAKAWA RAN-SAN
THAT'S THE STORY
UH
UH-HUH
EXCUSE MEEEE-EEE?!!
PLEASE ASAKAWA-SAN!!
YOU ALREADY HAVE AN AGENCY SO IT SHOULD BE EASY ENOUGH TO ARRANGE THINGS
I'm out of time...!
UM,
U-
BUT I'M STILL A NEWBIE I'M STILL IN TRAINING
SO I DON'T THINK I CAN DO IT RIGHT, SAEKI-SAN?

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? WE COULDN'T HAVE ASKED FOR A BETTER OFFER!
You've finally got to debut!
THIS WILL BE YOUR DEBUT RAN-CHAN!
YES, BUT I'M NOT READY YET...
JULIA
PLEASE BE QUIET THE ADULTS ARE TRYING TO TALK NOW
THERE'S ONE CONDI-TION.
JULIAA-AAA!!!
WHAT
W-
IS IT?
THE-RE'S
ONE CON-DI-TION.
Revved.
NO NUDES.
Abso-lutely not!
IT'S A FASHION MAGAZINE! WHAT SORT OF CLOTHING WOULD A FULL NUDE BE SHOWING? USE YOUR BRAIN!
YOU'RE BEING NAIVE SAEKI -SAN
IT'S AN INDUSTRY TACTIC
Heh.

THEN ONCE SHE'S GOTTEN USED TO THAT THEY'LL SHOOT HER IN SWIMSUITS,
THEN
UNDER-WEAR
THE AMOUNT OF CLOTHING SHE'S WEARING WILL GRADUALLY GET SMALLER AND SMALLER BY THE END SHE'LL BE DOING FULL NUDES!
SHE'LL BE GIVEN HARMLESS JOBS AT FIRST.
YOU'RE ALWAYS JUMPING TO CONCLU-SIONS!!
EVEN IF SHE REFUSES,
THEY MIGHT JUST TELL HER, "ALL RIGHT THEN LET'S JUST TAKE ONE
FOR YOUR PRIVATE USE TO COMME-MORATE THE SHOOT"
Urk urk urk urk urk!
ALL RIGHT, THEN
SINCE IT'S TO COMME-MORATE THE SHOOT
pant pant pant
... SEE?!
I TOLD YOU SO!!
YOU HAVE A NOSEBLEED AND YOU'RE PANTING
pant
WHERE DO YOU GET OFF SAYING "I TOLD YOU SO"?!

U-M,
I DON'T REALLY UNDERSTAND BUT I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT YOU HAVE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT
stare
AND THE CONCEPT IS FOR IT TO BE ARTISTIC, INSTEAD OF LOOKING LIKE SCENES OUT OF A CATALOG
Artiiiis-tiii~~c?!
THAT SOUNDS EVEN FISHIER, DOESN'T IT? LIKE YOU'RE GOING TO ASK HER TO POSE FULLY NUDE!
Art equals full nudity, huh...?
Her brain is just so
I'm tired.
Why am I wasting my time on persuading her...?
AS I JUST EXPLAINED, IT'S DEFINITELY FOR A FASHION MAGAZINE.
UM...
IF...
...YOU REALLY THINK I'D BE ALL RIGHT
THEN
I'D BE HAPPY TO DO IT...
ASA-KAWA -SAN!
RAN-CHAN, YOU'RE SURE IT'S OKAY? YOU'LL BE NUDE!
THINK IT THRO-UGH!!
YOU THINK IT THRO-UGH!!

I'VE BEEN WATCHING YOU WORK FOR THE PAST FEW MONTHS, JULIA-SAN, AND THERE ARE A COUPLE THINGS IN PARTICULAR I THINK I'VE LEARNED FROM YOU.
BE SINCERE,
AND HAVE THE COURAGE TO SEIZE CHANCES WHEN THEY COME YOUR WAY
I KNOW I STILL HAVE A LONG WAY TO GO,
BUT I DON'T WANT TO WASTE THE VALUABLE LESSONS YOU'VE TAUGHT ME
BY HESITATING TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY OR PUTTING THINGS OFF
RAN-
CHAN
throb
throb
throb
throb
throb
I'm a mess
DON'T JUST SUDDENLY DEVELOP A CONSCIENCE
You stupid girl.
I THOUGHT ALL I DID WAS GO GAGA OVER HER RU THE TIME...
...WAIT. I THUGHT RANRAN SOMETHING ...?!

I'M SORRY YOUR VERY FIRST JOB WILL BE ON SUCH A TIGHT SCHEDULE,
---BUT LET'S BOTH JUST TRY AND DO OUR BEST!
THANKS, ASAKAWA -SAN!
I'LL START PREPARING FOR THE SHOOT RIGHT AWAY.
ALL RIGHT -!
AFTER THAT,
THE REST WENT OFF WITHOUT A HITCH,
AND RAN HEADED HOME
SHE WOULDN'T BE TAGGING ALONG WITH JULIA ANYMORE NOW THAT SHE HAD THE SHOOT TO DO
See you later!

VIT
WHAT ARE ALL THOSE STRANGE NOISES FOR...?
FWAAA-AAAAAH ~~~.
SIIIIGH...
URPHHH...
VROOM
I DON'T FEEL HER ~~~!
I DON'T SEE HER ~~~!
I DON'T SMELL HER~!
dreamy
YOU CREEPY PERVERT...
OH, WAIT, THERE IS A BIT OF HER SCENT LEFT HERE.
I NEED HER. I'M DYING WITHOUT HER...
RANRAN IS GONE...
RAN-RAN...
YEAH, YEAH.
RANRAN WILL BE HERE TODAY, YOU KNOW
IT'S ONLY BEEN THREE DAYS YOU KNOW
IF YOU'RE SO WORRIED ABOUT HER, WHY NOT JUST CALL OR EMAIL HER?
I CAN'T
I'M HER SEMPAI, SO I CAN'T INITIATE CONTACT WITH HER
IT WOULD BE A DIFFERENT MATTER IF SHE WERE TO COME TO ME FOR ADVICE
I SEE
Well, I just do as you please, then.
SIGH
I RET

RANRAN ISN'T AS PREOCCUPIED WITH ME RIGHT NOW
I JUST HAVE TO GRIN AND BEAR IT FOR NOW,
AS I AM WITH HER.
SINCE SHE'S TRYING TO DO THIS ON HER OWN. SHE'S WORKING SO HARD
I'LL JUST THROW MYSELF INTO MY WORK—
STAYING OUT OF IT
sniff
I'M LONELY, BUT THIS IS ALL FOR THE BEST----!
sniff
YOU'VE GOTTA GIVE IT YOUR ALL, RANRAN~!
YOU POOR BABY
sniff
weep weep
---- GOOD WORK!
LET'S TAKE FIVE ASAKAWA -SAN

HMM-MM?
EHEHEHE I KNOW, RIGHT?
SERA-SAN, SERA-SAN!
THAT GIRL'S AMAZING! SHE'S SHAPIN' UP TO BE AWESOME!
THIS REALLY HER FIRST TIME?
OH
ALL RIIIGHT!
SHE MAKES A PRETTY PICTURE WHEN YOU LOOK AT HER THROUGH THE LENS, DOESN'T SHE?
AND WITH MAKE-UP ON, HER FOREIGN HERITAGE REALLY SHOWS...
SHE HALF-JAPANESE OR SOMETHIN'?
Oh,
Here's your water
Sorry for the trouble
SHE WON'T SAY EVEN THE HEAD OF THE AGENCY DOESN'T KNOW...
HE JUST HAS HER NAME AND PERSONAL CONTACT INFO...
SHE'S A MYSTERY HUH?
Uhm!

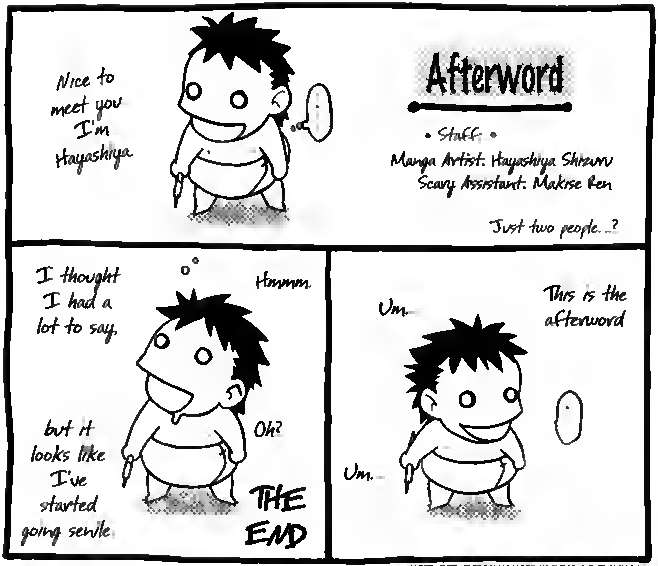
---WELL, I DON'T REALLY CARE ABOUT THAT SORT OF THING, ANYWAY.
I'M JUST INTERESTED IN DRAWING OUT HER BEAUTY.
OUR TROUBLE FINDING A MODEL SET US BACK A BIT.
BUT I THINK THIS JOB IS GOING TO TURN OUT WELL ANYWAY.
HEH HEH HEH.
he he he he he he he he he
...OH... WE'VE LOST HER SHE'S TOTALLY GONE
IT'S A LOT TOUGHER THAN I EXPECTED
SIGH
NOW I REALLY GET HOW INCREDIBLE JULIA -SAN IS
WATCHING IT AND DOING IT ARE TWO VERY DIFFERENT THINGS

Goooood morning!
SHE SAID WE WERE FRIENDS
SO I WANT US TO AT LEAST BE AT THE SAME LEVEL.
Yee-eep!
You're in high spirits today, Julia-chan.
I WANT TO TRY AND DO THIS ALL ON MY OWN
BUT
I REALLY WANT TO TALK TO HER RIGHT NOW.
BET SHE'D GIVE ME SOME GOOD ADVICE
I NEVER THOUGHT I'D BE THIS INTO IT
I WANT TO GIVE SOMETHING BACK
TO THE PERSON WHO SHOWED ME THIS WORLD COULD BE FUN.

I HAVE A STOMACH-ACHE THOUGH
I ALWAYS CAVE UNDER PRESSURE
throb
throb
throb

THAT'S HER?
thud
THE MODEL THEY PICKED TO REPLACE ME?
YES
BUT THERE'S NO NEED TO CONCERN OURSELVES WITH THAT
LAME -O!
THEY KICKED ME OUT FOR THAT?
SIGH
I WON'T BE SATISFIED UNTIL I DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS
I UNDERSTAND YOUR FEELINGS BUT WE REALLY HAVE TO GET TO YOUR NEXT JOB NOW
We need to go—!

URGH-HHH
I'M NOT GONNA MAKE IT- I'M DONE FOR!
I'M DESPE-RATE
PRETEND TO BE RANRAN FOR ME, SAEKI -SAN!
Hmm?
LIKE I COULD !!!
STRAWBERRY SHAKE SWEET 1 — END



NOTE: TOP TYPICALLY USED IN BOYS' LOVE MANGA

First off, thank you for reading this manga.
This manga started off as a one-shot, then turned into a serialized manga, then stopped, then started up again.
I truly believe that it was the kind words and wishes from people reading the manga that supported me through it all. Now that the manga has resumed, I've got my eye on the goal. I'm gonna stay strong and just go for it, so I'm humbly asking that you be so kind as to watch over me with a smile. Until we meet again in the next volume, please take care of yourselves!!

7-00517- Hayashiya Shizuru

I don't know which is the sense, Kaoru or Julia, but I'm sure the goal of manga and you will give me an epiphany sometime.

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Strawberry Shake

CHAPTER 4

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Strawberry Shake Sweet
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